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Colorado Springs Independent

Sound And Vision

From John Cage to Sonic Youth, experimental music pioneer Pauline Oliveros reflects on a life well lived 16

By Bill Forman

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Venetucci faces uncertain fate

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"We will have no vegetables, no grass-fed beef, no pastured pork, no free-range chickens and no eggs, no grain, no hay, no Venetucci Pumpkin Ale [courtesy Bristol Brewing Co.] and, worst of all ... no pumpkins for kids!"

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Warmed over

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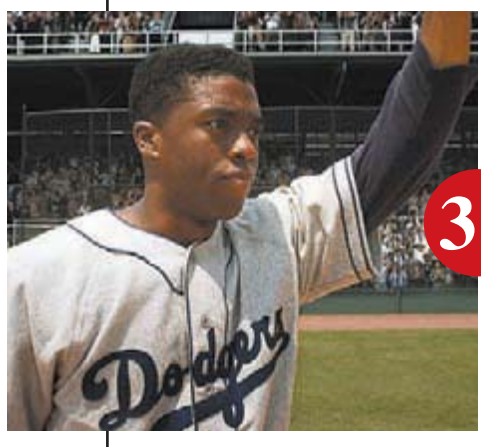
City officials took nine months to study how local government tackled the Waldo Canyon Fire before they unveiled the city's Final After Action Report last week. And with the next fire season at our doorstep, it's surprising that so many questions still go unanswered.



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At every available opportunity, *42* makes sure we understand it's about righteous people standing up righteously and doing the righteous thing, often while batting righteous-handed.

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On the Cover
Photography by IONE.

UpComing

In the upcoming weeks you'll be seeing some additions to the *Indy*. It's the result of a year-long search to add to our current array of columnists, bringing you new voices and new perspectives on local happenings.

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Jeff Faltz

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Leslie Noe

Buffalo Wild Wings $25 Gift Certificate (only valid at the North Academy location)
Mitchell Diaz

Hear Here Poetry Slam Pair of tickets to the show, Wednesday, April 17 at Stargazers
LeeAnn Lansing

Be a Winner!

Bill Cosby brings his family-friendly humor to the Pikes Peak Center, and Disney On Ice's newest skating spectacular glides into the World Arena. Enter at csindy.com for your chance to share a good time with your family.

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SliceOfLife

Matthew Schniper

Local YogaSlackers teacher Jeremy Hasty prepares for the impressive transition between sitting and standing on a slackline in Middle Shooks Run Park.

Letters

Editor, 235 S. Nevada Ave., CS, CO 80903 • e-mail: letters@csindy.com

If your comments are mailed or e-mailed to us, we'll consider them for publication — unless you request otherwise. Please include your name, city of residence and a daytime phone number for verification.

They are not a PAC

Reading the "Looking for signs: Who's pumping cash into City Council campaigns?" article in the March 27 edition of the *Independent*, I see that there are multiple references to the Colorado Springs Police Protective Association's involvement as a Political Action Committee (PAC).

The CSPPA does not have a PAC. Instead, we have a Small Donor Committee (SDC). SDCs operate under completely different rules and guidelines than do PACs. Fundamentally they are very different tools for campaign finance.

PACs have an unlimited potential for raising funds, as they can get an unlimited number of contributors to donate to their causes, be it a candidate or an issue. SDCs are limited specifically to support from the people or members in their associated organization; no other individuals are allowed to contribute to the SDC. Colorado state law caps the member contributions to an SDC at $50 a year. Therefore, SDCs have a significantly decreased ability to raise funds to use in their support of candidates (SDCs cannot support issues or initiatives) whereas with a PAC, the sky is the limit.

You can see that what is considered legal conduct for one committee is considered illegal conduct for the other and vice versa. You can also see how SDCs are significantly limited in their involvement.

As reporters, it is your responsibility to make sure your facts are straight before putting them into print. I am disappointed by your limited knowledge of campaign finance rules, and your reluctance to do thorough research before publishing articles.

— Robin Rogers
Executive director,
Colorado Springs Police Protective Association

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

'When a political leader dies, it is irresponsible in the extreme to demand that only praise be permitted but not criticisms.'

— Glenn Greenwald of The Guardian*, on the response to the death of Margaret Thatcher, former British prime minister.*

Too much bigotry

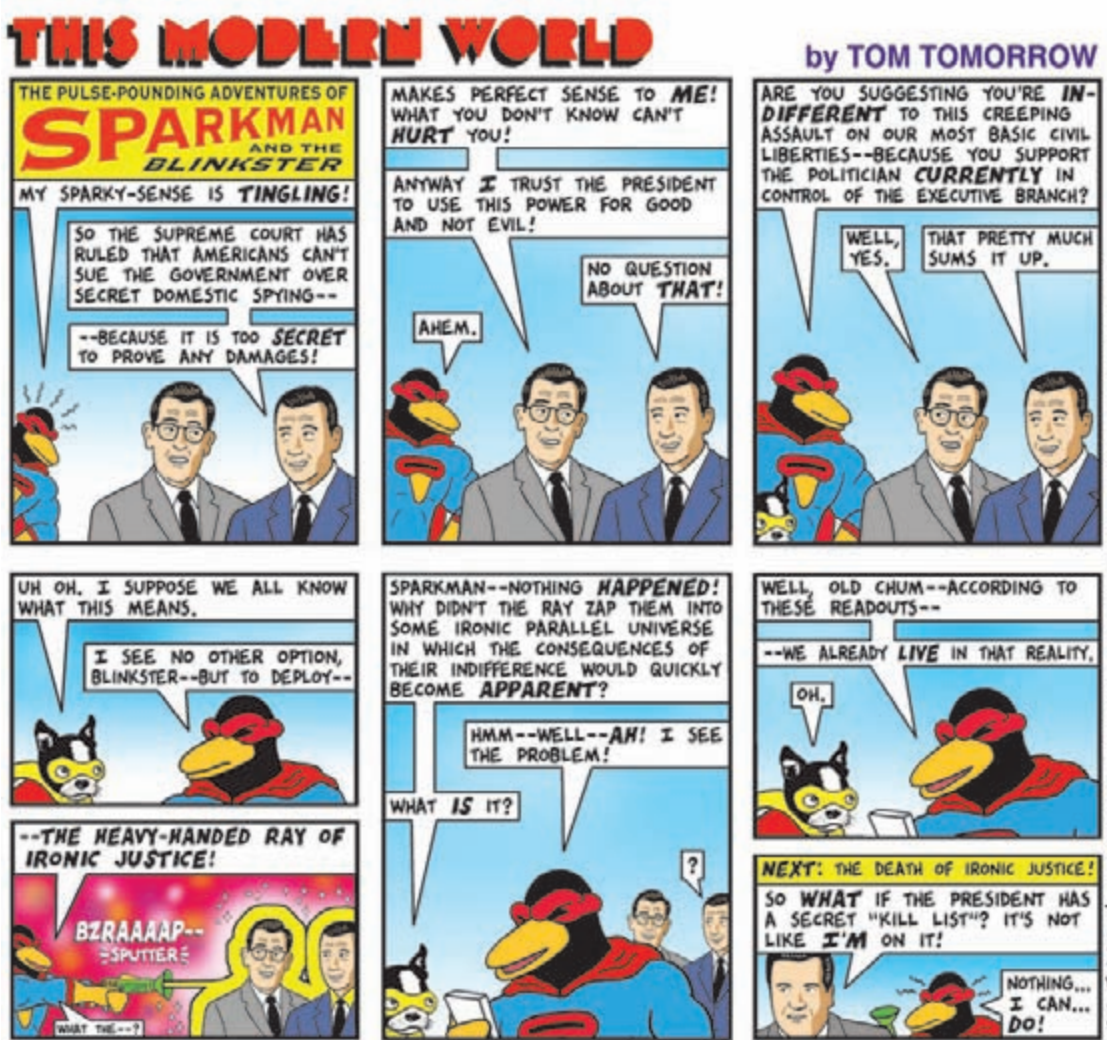
I would like to thank Ms. Joyce Cheney for her letter ("Where they stand," March 27) to let people know where Helen Collins and Roger McCarville stand on marriage equality. Ms. Cheney's enlightening letter did not make a difference in the election (with Collins getting elected in District 4), and that should be of no surprise to anyone.

Colorado Springs has become one of the most extreme right-wing Christian cities in this country. I have lived in this region since I moved here from New York in 1978. I will not be here much longer.

Colorado Springs has a stench of bigotry and hatred that has been suffocating me and my family since Lionel Rivera took the mayoral office, and this stench has been growing ever since. This horrible stench is too much for me, my business and wonderful family, so we are making plans to move elsewhere.

I love living in a diverse community, I welcome differing opinions, but to label our gay population as disgusting and perverse is more than just diverse opinions — it moves into the arena of hatred, and certainly not the kind of teaching I wish to have my children learn from.

—Michael McMahon
Colorado Springs


THIS MODERN WORLD
by TOM TOMORROW
THE PULSE-POUNDING ADVENTURES OF SPARKMAN AND THE BLINKSTER
MY SPARKY-SENSE IS TINGLING!
SO THE SUPREME COURT HAS RULED THAT AMERICANS CAN'T SUE THE GOVERNMENT OVER SECRET DOMESTIC SPYING--
--BECAUSE IT IS TOO SECRET TO PROVE ANY DAMAGES!
MAKES PERFECT SENSE TO ME! WHAT YOU DON'T KNOW CAN'T HURT YOU!
ANYWAY I TRUST THE PRESIDENT TO USE THIS POWER FOR GOOD AND NOT EVIL!
NO QUESTION ABOUT THAT!
AHEM.
ARE YOU SUGGESTING YOU'RE INDIFFERENT TO THIS CREEPING ASSAULT ON OUR MOST BASIC CIVIL LIBERTIES--BECAUSE YOU SUPPORT THE POLITICIAN CURRENTLY IN CONTROL OF THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH?
WELL, YES.
THAT PRETTY MUCH SUMS IT UP.
UH OH. I SUPPOSE WE ALL KNOW WHAT THIS MEANS.
I SEE NO OTHER OPTION, BLINKSTER--BUT TO DEPLOY--
--THE HEAVY-HANDED RAY OF IRONIC JUSTICE!
BZRAAAAP--
-SPUTTER-
WHAT THE--?
SPARKMAN--NOTHING HAPPENED! WHY DIDN'T THE RAY ZAP THEM INTO SOME IRONIC PARALLEL UNIVERSE IN WHICH THE CONSEQUENCES OF THEIR INDIFFERENCE WOULD QUICKLY BECOME APPARENT?
HMM--WELL--AH! I SEE THE PROBLEM!
WHAT IS IT?
?
WELL, OLD CHUM--ACCORDING TO THESE READOUTS--
--WE ALREADY LIVE IN THAT REALITY.
OH.
NEXT: THE DEATH OF IRONIC JUSTICE!
SO WHAT IF THE PRESIDENT HAS A SECRET "KILL LIST"? IT'S NOT LIKE I'M ON IT!
NOTHING... I CAN... DO!
TOM TOMORROW ©4-10-2013 ...www.thismodernworld.com ...twitter.com/tomtomorrow

Political irony

What an excellent commentary ("Chaos in state legislatures," City Sage, April 3)! I just moved here from Maryland and the one thing I've quickly noticed is the noise level generated by the "pit bulls" here. And the finger-pointing! Every ill that exists is the Democrats' and President Obama's fault.

The constant belly-aching is still about crying over who won. The facts are, Coloradans voted for the current Legislature and in turn voted for the changes. That's America.

And I couldn't agree with you more: As the demographics continue to change the Republicans will continue to be on the outside looking in. I say this as one who voted for President Bush (regretfully) and his budget-busting wars and Sen. McCain. Our local congressional representatives vote for sequester, then blame everyone else. What a hoot! Ironically, it's telling because it really reflects on us as Americans.

— William Pratt
Colorado Springs

No better cause?

Every day I open the newspaper to read of more gun-related deaths. These killings are not always done by the mentally ill; often a child picks up a gun left nearby, or an irate spouse/child has easy access to a gun and kills or harms another human in anger or passion. Our culture of guns and violence harms all of us.

So, to honor that culture, El Paso County Commissioner Peggy Littleton last week proposed a resolution that April 4, 2013, shall be designated

LongStoryShort

So why is it, you may ask, that Sonic Youth, Laurie Anderson and DJ Spooky all revere Pauline Oliveros, but most of us have never even heard the name?

Part of the reason, of course, is that musicians do tend to pay more attention to music, and Oliveros' unconventional work is more likely to appeal to the aforementioned artists than would the songs of, say, Sammy Hagar.

In any case, the pioneering electronic artist — who's doing an artist residency at the University of Colorado at Colorado Springs this week as well as a public performance on Saturday — is earning more accolades now than back in the days when she collaborated with Morton Subotnick and John Cage.

You can also hear echoes of Oliveros' work in everything from Brian Eno's ambient music to dubstep architect Burial's early creations (back before Skrillex choked the imagination out of that genre).

The fact is that both the artist *and* her music have withstood the test of time, as evidenced by her daunting schedule: After Oliveros finishes up here, she'll fly to Tokyo for a one-week residency, then return to New York for a concert where she and Anderson will provide electronic accordion and violin accompaniment to a silent film screening. And after *that*, she'll debut a scene from her next opera, conduct deep listening workshops, and perform with an ever-shifting group of collaborators.

So whether you're new to her or not, you really don't want to miss Saturday's local performance. After all, Oliveros is moving fast, and the world is still catching up.

— Bill Forman

Get Involved has moved to Volunteer Opportunities (p. 40) for the week.

"Friends of the NRA Day." [The resolution was approved unanimously.] Really? She couldn't find a better cause?

Just who is the NRA and why is she their friend? Could it possibly be in anticipation of a future campaign contribution?

Who benefits the most from the NRA? Gun and gun-related manufacturers, a $12 billion industry. True, the NRA does spend money on gun education and training, but during the 2010 election cycle, the NRA spent more than $7.2 million on lobbying at the federal level. Over half of the money contributed to the NRA comes from gun manufacturers.

Why would someone endorse a day to celebrate guns and gun manufacturers? Wouldn't the effort of our elected "leaders" be better spent on solving our existing issues and moving the county forward? This county is too often in the national news — and not very frequently on a positive note.

We clamor for jobs and businesses to move to our community. What type of business would want to move here? Controversy abounds. Who would want to move their family here?

What Ms. Littleton is doing is insensitive and callous to many who are still grieving over the lives lost in Colorado just recently. She is not contributing to the quality of life that most of us moved here for in the first place.

— Linda Dyer
Colorado Springs

Religious America

The *Independent* decided to allow Fred Kormos and Christopher Curcio to gang up on Father Bill Carmody (which is fine), who is rightly concerned about the threats to his religious freedom ("Adoptions on the line," Letters, March 27). The political left is more concerned with advancing their gospel of civil rights and equality so much at the expense of religious freedom.

Kormos says, "Religious liberty gives one the freedom to believe as one chooses, not a license to dictate to everyone else how to conduct their lives." Problem is that most governments in the world are becoming more powerful than any established church. The liberals/progressives would deny this, but I see otherwise.

Already in Massachusetts, Catholic Charities has discontinued their adoption services because they don't want to be responsible for adopting children out to couples that are not in a one-man, one-woman marital relationship, knowing if they deny gay couples the right to adopt they would be dealing with a lawsuit.

At the federal level, our Health and Human Services department is forcing a birth control/abortion mandate on parachurch organizations. They don't want me to block a woman's "right to choose," but they sure want us to pay for her abortion as well as her loose sexual libido.

Liberals/progressives keep forgetting that anyone who acquires absolute power gets corrupted absolutely. Maybe they know that already and what the left really wants to do is wage a war against God the Father, His Son, and the Holy Ghost, and prove that you don't need them to achieve Heaven on Earth, or Utopia or whatever. As far as I am concerned the leftists that are engaged in this war are only proving in my mind that the Holy Bible is very real.

— Don McCullen
Colorado Springs

Secular America

With all due respect, Fr. Bill Carmody, your argument is specious on its face. Religious liberty — what is that? Catholic Charities and other such groups that have "religious/moral" objections to any couple other than a self-defined married male/female heterosexual couple being allowed to adopt children through their organizations can make any conditions or restrictions they so choose, once they start *paying taxes*.

It is your 501(c)3 status, rather than your firmly held beliefs, that is causing all of the problems for most of us hardworking tax-paying citizens. If your organization paid its fair share, it could dictate any rules it liked. Until then, you must respect separation of church and state or face criticism or even outright condemnation by others in our "free country" who disagree with you.

Oh, and by the way, I am a heterosexual female, married 30 years to the same man, with two grown children from our union. And here's the kicker: I am Catholic!

— Tami Fredrich
Colorado Springs

Task force fail

The citizens of the state of Colorado are about to find out what a grave disservice the Marijuana Task Force is doing them. The whole point of Amendment 64 was to treat marijuana like alcohol. What I'm seeing, in following along with these task force meetings, are excessive taxes, limits on plants, and limits on amounts of marijuana that people can possess.

If marijuana is to be treated like alcohol, then are there going to be limits on how many bottles of beer a home brewer or even a liquor license holder can make or possess at any one time? And will there be an excise tax on all alcohol made and/or sold in the state? And will liquor license fees increase to the level of medical marijuana center fees?

No? Then why are these things being imposed on marijuana, which is provably safer than alcohol?

At no point does it appear that any of the task force members are making the connections to alcohol in their proposed treatment of regulation of marijuana, and I think the "special" limits and taxes on marijuana should rightly be rejected by Colorado voters.

— Áine MacDermot
Colorado Springs

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StreetSmarts

Musical movements

Fast or slow, loud or soft, in groups or solo, there's music for just about every interest, expression and emotion. Is it just for enjoyment, or can music help us heal, make us smarter, and even bring us peace?

Keith Evans of the ***west side*** is in ***customer service***

Would you categorize listening to music as an experience? Yes, all music is an experience. Whether you like it or not, it all causes emotion.

Have you ever gotten "lost" in music? Yes. Bluegrass can do that and so can jazz. And even without words, music tells a story.

How important is music in your life? Without music there is no life; everything is music.

What's the biggest benefit you get from it? Peace. All music brings me peace.

How do you find out about new music? Are you interested? Oh, yeah, I listen to it all. A friend recently turned me on to a band named Dredg. And there's a German group called Rammstein I listen to sometimes.

Garrett Girouard from ***downtown*** is an ***educator***

How important is music to you? It's pretty important. I listen to music every day.

To the radio or CDs? Both.

Have you heard very much about the healing properties of music? Not much, but I'd be interested. I don't think it's impossible that music could help heal.

What kind of benefits do you get from music? I think it can shape my mood, and it helps me enjoy my work.

Have you ever gotten "lost" in music? No, I don't think so, but it has helped me relive some experiences because it brings back memories.

Jill Tobin of ***Fountain*** is a ***stay-at-home mom***

Is music important in your life? Yes, definitely. I listen to music daily, for hours. It helps the soul and makes my day.

Do you have a favorite style of music? I grew up in Louisiana, so I'm partial to that, but I listen to everybody.

Have you ever heard of music being therapeutic? Yes. I was in physical therapy and was told that music and the body are closely connected. I believe that it really helps.

Would you say you've ever gotten "lost" listening to music? Yes, honestly, I was listening to a song by Aaron Neville and Celine Dion and I really got into it. I kind of jumped when the song was over.

How interested are you in new music? Well, I get to hear it because my kids are into it, the newer and alternative music.

What benefits do you get from listening to music? Total peace.

— Kendall Kullman

This article is underwritten by The Freethinkers of Colorado Springs which is solely responsible for its content

FREETHOUGHT VIEWS

Web: www.FreethinkersCS.com Email: FreethinkersCS@FreethinkersCS.com Write: PO Box 62946, CSC 80962 Phone: 719-232-3597

Down the Rabbit Hole

by Marcus Nicolas

Have you thought about the validity of your religious beliefs lately? For many people, their beliefs dictate their actions in life.

Not long ago, I joined a group called Freethinkers of Colorado Springs. Being raised religiously, I came to realize my thinking was limited. I thought everything was attributed to a supernatural being. My mind was boxed into a sort of system analogous to the Matrix.

As a Christian, I went to church all the time, took notes, and studied them. Since childhood, I was named "Doubting Thomas" because of my constant skepticism. Evaluating what I believed was not out of character.

One thing I realized is apart from religion, people generally don't believe claims without proof. A claim of someone jumping high enough to land two blocks away would require proof. Extraordinary claims require extraordinary evidence. So why should religion be any different? In my quest for the truth, the more I searched, the more I realized that these religious dogmas I held so dearly crumbled under the scrutiny of logic and reason. Besides asking others, I eventually asked myself a question which could not be substantiated with facts. Does God exist? This is the reason today I am freethinker.

Freethinkers question religious dogmas. I can describe this path like that of the movie The Matrix. I was always searching for the truth and always knew there was something out there more than what I had been taught. Yet I could not put my finger on it. I was in the system for years and could not be free. Then one day, I realized I had a choice. I could take the blue pill, wake up my old life, and nothing would change. Or … I could take the red pill, see the truth/reality of the world, and see how far the rabbit hole goes. My Morpheus (the truth … red pill) only offered the truth and nothing more. So I took the red pill and was no longer attached to this system of beliefs I was brought up in. I was freed and was no longer plugged into the system. Since my mind is not bound by any religious dogmas, I no longer hold onto the threat of being punished forever for not believing in any system. I am a much happier individual because I do not believe in a supernatural entity that dictates or controls my life's actions. I control myself.

If you want to know the truth and feel you are plugged into a system you may have questions about, you may want to contact Freethinkers of Colorado Springs. If you have been asked fundamental questions you did or do not have answers for that pertain to your religious dogmas, you need to come talk to Freethinkers. Just remember one thing. Nothing more than the truth will be given to you. If you feel you need or want some freedom from the system, come on by so you can see how far the rabbit hole goes!

James Parco PhD
For God and Country: Religious Fundamentalism in the US Military

Thursday April 18
7:00 to 9:00 PM

Gill Center for Public Media
315 East Costilla
Colorado Springs

"All dogmas perish the thinking mind, especially the ones you agree with."
— Adam Richardson

Marcus Nicolas is a member of the Freethinkers of Colorado Springs Board of Directors who describes himself as having recently "deconverted."

CitySage

By John Hazlehurst

At attention after election

Angela Dougan. **Tim Leigh**. **Lisa Czelatdko**. Between the three of them, they managed to define and de-legitimize Colorado Springs City Council in less than two years. Perhaps seeing the handwriting on the wall, Lisa C. declined to run for re-election, but Dougan and Leigh soldiered on, figuring incumbency would outweigh their numerous gaffes.

Bad decision, but you wouldn't have known it from the media enablers (myself included) and the shot-callers at the Housing and Building Association. Dougan and Leigh? Locks for re-election.

Both were trounced by political newcomers. Voters in both District 1 and District 2 didn't just decline to re-elect the two sitting Councilors, they treated them as if they were dog turds on the front lawn. Of the 16,400-plus votes cast in D-1, Leigh got 3,270 — a hair under 20 percent.

Dougan did better in D-2, pulling in 5,067 of about 13,000 votes.

Two other Council members fell, of course. In D-3, **Brandy Williams** got 34 percent of the vote, losing by 800 votes to **Keith King**. **Bernie Herpin** went down in D-5 with 31 percent, beaten by **Jill Gaebler**'s 36 percent. Yet neither Williams nor Herpin was as decisively rejected by the voters. Both had credible opponents, and Williams was clearly damaged by a barrage of negative ads from "issue committees."

We're a military city — and now we have a military Council.

So what happened to the supposedly inherent advantages of incumbency? Well, actually none of the four serving Councilors kicked to the curb were true incumbents. Williams and Leigh were elected at-large in 2011, while Dougan (District 2) and Herpin (District 4) represented districts that were redrawn or no longer exist.

City Clerk **Sarah Johnson** efficiently created six districts from the existing four, in accordance with a voter-approved charter change proposed by former Mayor **Lionel Rivera**. Johnson's redistricting paid little heed to the tender sensibilities of incumbent councilors, neighborhood advocates or folks who wanted a safe liberal-to-moderate district. Johnson hewed carefully to applicable federal law and city ordinances, and presented a plan that pleased almost no one.

Of the ousted Gang of Four, only Dougan could reasonably be called an incumbent, since the new D-2 is wholly within the boundaries of her former district. Meanwhile, Leigh ran in a district represented by his rival, Council President **Scott Hente**. It's no coincidence that Hente contributed to **Don Knight**'s campaign — they're friends. And Herpin's new district bears little resemblance to the one he represented for four years.

So how's that hopey-changey thing working for Colorado Springs residents?

In 2011, we elected six rookie Councilors and a rookie mayor. Two years later, voters elected six more rookies (five, if you give King credit for time served in the state Legislature).

If the voters ran an NFL team, we'd say that they don't know how to make personnel decisions. No sane general manager turns over two-thirds of his roster every two years, unless the team is unspeakably bad.

Is that what voters believed? So it seems, judging from their choices.

Putting aside **Helen Collins**' victory in D-4, where low turnout and weak opposition enabled the stridently ideological Navy veteran to claim the prize, voters sent a clear message.

They want smart, disciplined, thoughtful representatives. Collins may be ideological, but she's not dumb. Councilors-elect **Andres Pico**, Knight and **Joel Miller** are a whole lot smarter than your average politician (imagine a *Matchwits* competition between those three and any three randomly chosen state legislators), and King is nobody's fool.

We're a military city — and now we have a military Council. Miller, Knight, Pico, Collins, Gaebler and incumbent **Val Snider** have substantial military experience. Given that military culture is cooperative, hierarchical and mission-focused, we're unlikely to see public quarrels or long, self-serving speeches from the Council dais.

Will the new Councilors defer to Mayor **Steve Bach** as their superior officer? Nope — they've already read the charter, and they know who runs what. I somehow doubt that Pfc. Bach can beat a roomful of retired majors, colonels and commanders into submission ... even if their first official action is to change the name of City Hall to CityCOM.

— hazlehurst@csindy.com

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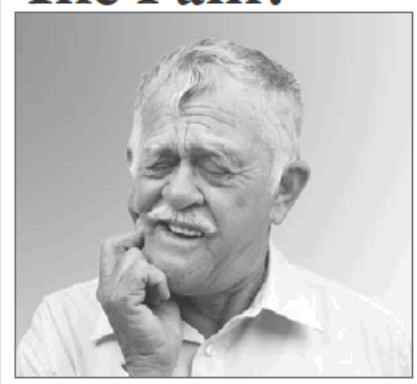

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BetweentheLines

By Ralph Routon

Venetucci faces uncertain fate

As executive director of the Pikes Peak Community Foundation, **Michael Hannigan** is tasked with staying on top of all the projects and programs under the organization's broad umbrella. And one of the foundation's most visible endeavors has been running Venetucci Farm — the last working farm, as Hannigan notes, in the Colorado Springs metro area.

For generations, thousands of area kids have visited Venetucci's idyllic 190 acres and come away with free pumpkins, though the south-side farm is also known for its sustainable farming and community education.

"We're the last source of chemical-free food in town — the last of the Mohicans," Hannigan says. "And it's important that we can teach thousands of kids every year about food, health and nutrition. They come to the farm, see real animals and real food, and learn the value of what that means."

But when a piece of mail came a few weeks ago, Hannigan couldn't believe what he was seeing. For decades, Venetucci has been buying what's known as "augmentation water" for its many agricultural undertakings from the Colorado Water Protective and Development Association.

'We have to do whatever we can to save this farm.'

That's because, despite having ample water underneath the farm itself, the PPCF (like the Venetucci family before it) must purchase rights to match every drop of water used for agricultural purposes. It's the complicated result of a long-ago lawsuit won by the state of Kansas, requiring Colorado to send Kansas its share of water via the Arkansas River.

It was never a major problem until that letter slapped Hannigan and Venetucci in the face with one sentence: "Here's your water allotment for the year: ZERO."

You can blame the ongoing drought, which is disrupting water supplies across Colorado. But for Hannigan, this disruption could double as a death knell. Unless the farm can secure new augmentation-water rights, the legendary Venetucci Farm will shut down. The state will tag its wells, preventing the farm from using them.

Hannigan recently described the worst-case scenario in a sobering note on the foundation's website: "We will have no vegetables, no grass-fed beef, no pastured pork, no free-range chickens and no eggs, no grain, no hay, no Venetucci Pumpkin Ale [courtesy Bristol Brewing Co.] and, worst of all ... no pumpkins for kids!"

After several weeks of scrambling, now Hannigan feels hopeful about acquiring sufficient temporary water rights for Venetucci to operate as usual in 2013. "But we can't take anything for granted," he says, "because there are about 300 other people and groups like us out there hunting for groundwater. I've been working like a crazy man, trying to get people to lease us some surface-water shares."

And that's just a fix for 2013. Beyond this year, Hannigan and Venetucci must find a new solution, with the drought showing no sign of letting up. Buying permanent water rights would cost as much as $2 million, which is likely not feasible.

"We can't just let this happen," Hannigan says. "We have to do whatever we can to save this farm. And it's not just us. What happens in times like this is that small and family-owned farms have to close or sell their water rights. Once they're sold for development or industry, they never come back to agriculture. This could be death to agriculture in the state."

Hannigan hopes Colorado's Legislature might step in and create an agricultural "water bank," for small farms in particular. But the rights will cost more, regardless, than what Venetucci had been paying. So Hannigan is appealing to the region for help, via ppcf.org/products/wfff.

"If everybody who ever got a pumpkin could give us $10, we'd have all we need," Hannigan says.

That's not likely, but the foundation has to do something. Venetucci had also recently launched a $300,000 campaign to build a new barn for the farm operations and education programs, "and we still want to go ahead with that. We can't let it slip away. But it'll be more of a challenge now.

"We all knew there was a drought, but it's like the whole state has been sleepwalking into the future," Hannigan says. "I was sleepwalking myself, too. But this will affect everybody now. It's scary. We just have to hope the community around us won't let Venetucci Farm die."

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Ready, aim, recall

Impatient to be rid of Sen. John Morse, grassroots activists go rogue

By Chet Hardin

Nick Andrasik, spokesman for the Basic Freedom Defense Fund, readily acknowledges that he's new to this political game. The organization he represents launched just a month ago, after a group of frustrated gun owners met up online and decided to recall the Democratic politicians who recently spearheaded passage of gun-control measures in Colorado's Legislature.

Bryan Oller

Some have been inspired by Sheriff Terry Maketa.

"None of us really have activist roots in our past," Andrasik says. "None of us have any experience in this."

You could guess as much by taking a look at Andrasik's profile at the AR15.com gun forum. Earlier this year, he ranted there against state representatives — labeling one a "vacuous c*nt" and another as a "f*cking retard" — and posted gleeful self-portraits in which he's holding large weapons. (Andrasik has since apologized for his language.)

Nonetheless, BFDF has statewide aims. And though Andrasik himself lives in Westminster, he and his colleagues are focusing largely on John Morse, who represents District 11 in El Paso County. As Senate president, Morse is a big name, meaning a fledgling group could probably use some help in trying to take him down.

Apparently, it's not happening.

Dudley Brown, founder and executive director of Rocky Mountain Gun Owners, the state's largest Second Amendment organization, sounds dismissive of Andrasik and Co.: "From what I can tell, you can measure the political experience of BFDF with an egg timer."

And Cherish Schaffer, the newly hired executive director for the El Paso County Republican Party, says the party cannot be involved in the recall effort, due to concerns with laws against coordination.

Then again, she adds, one of BFDF's organizers has told her the party isn't wanted anyway.

How it works

Andrasik and his fellow activists have until June 3 to collect 7,178 valid signatures from the district that includes central Colorado Springs and Manitou Springs. Locally, they appear to be working as an organization called the El Paso Freedom Defense Committee, whose organizers could not be reached despite multiple attempts.

Cindy Lyons, a local activist, is confident the group can pull it off. She has attended two organizational meetings and says that she was "kind of shocked" by the turnout: One meeting was attended by 120, the other by 160.

"That's way unusual for any kind of meeting that I have ever been at — to have that many on the fly," she says. "It's amazing. People are very angry."

That much is clear, judging from the enthusiastic support Sheriff Terry Maketa raised as he spoke out against the gun measures last month. (Maketa's stand has even inspired Jeff Hays, new chairman of the county GOP, to post song lyrics from "Stout-Hearted Men" at gopelpaso.com.)

So Lyons says they will begin collecting signatures this week: "We're going to try for 14,000."

If they're successful, says Clerk and Recorder Wayne Williams, the county will hold a special election. While a county-wide election can run more than $500,000, he can't give a good estimate for this one yet, as there are a couple of factors to consider.

For one, since Morse is a state senator, it can't be just a mail-ballot election; polling places will have to be open. Plus, there is a concurrent attempt to hold a recall election in Colorado Springs School District 11. If Colorado Gov. John Hickenlooper, who sets the date for the Morse recall, agrees, both could be held at the same time.

The Morse ballot would have two questions, Williams continues. The first would be straightforward: Should he be recalled? Then there would be the question of a replacement. Anyone in the district — Republican, Democrat or other — could run if they collected 1,000 valid signatures.

For her part, Schaffer says the county Republican Party is "looking at candidates."

Rolling the dice

Brown, of Rocky Mountain Gun Owners, says he "would love to see Sen. Morse face voters right now." But "it's not clear, under state law, whether or not our nonprofit, our main organization, can support a recall-petition-gathering. It really isn't. BFDF is supposedly a 501(c)4, or at least that's how they filed. And, I'm not sure that they can be involved in recalls."

Luis Toro of Colorado Ethics Watch echoes the uncertainty, adding that if BFDF filed as a 501(c)4 to get around state financial disclosure laws, "it isn't going to work."

It also appears Brown is uneasy with rushing into an election for a seat that will soon be empty. Morse is term-limited out of office in 2014. "You don't win recalls if you don't have a candidate," he says. "All it's doing is moving the calendar up."

And there is always the possibility that a challenged Democrat could just resign, notes Williams, which "would allow the vacancy committee to put someone back in who would have voted the same way."

Christy Le Lait, executive director of the local Democratic Party, says the party has launched a fundraising campaign to support Morse. However, she says, she thinks the whole thing is a waste of time.

"This is just to divert people's attention, and stop any other good work that the Legislature is doing. I think Senator Morse has done a great job," she says. "He has not broken the law. This is all because you don't agree with his votes."

Not so, Andrasik says.

"It's not a simple policy disagreement. It's a fundamental political disagreement," he says. "Trying to strip a group of people, who have never committed a crime, of their rights, smacks of tyranny and elitism, something we disagree with on a fundamental level."

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Warmed over

City's Final After Action Report ignores key questions about what went wrong in the Waldo fire

By Pam Zubeck

City officials took nine months to study how local government tackled the Waldo Canyon Fire before they unveiled the city's Final After Action Report last week. And no wonder: It was the city's worst-ever disaster and claimed two lives, destroyed 347 homes (as opposed to the 345 first reported) and charred more than 1,500 acres within the city limits. Many homeowners are still struggling to patch their lives back together.

But the next fire season is at our doorstep, underscoring the importance of knowing what went right and wrong last summer. Which is why it's surprising that so many questions that have lingered go unanswered in the city's final report. They include:

• why upper Mountain Shadows, Peregrine and parts of Rockrimmon weren't evacuated sooner, and why the four people empowered to call for an evacuation were all at a news conference even as flames poured into the subdivisions behind them.

• why, despite a morning forecast that likened weather conditions to those of the Hayman Fire's one-day 60,000-acre run in 2002, the city had only four firefighting vehicles in subdivisions on the city's northeast side on the afternoon of Tuesday, June 26;

• why officials chose not to contact mutual aid departments until fire was burning inside the city;

• and why officials neglected to identify a workable staging area and have it equipped to house firefighters and cops for a long campaign until the fire had burned for four days and was consuming homes.

Nor does the 111-page report assign responsibility for the many failures the report *does* document, including breakdowns in communications, planning, operational coordination, logistics, emergency public safety and emergency public information.

Bach himself hasn't spoken of assigning responsibility either, at least publicly. When he stood before reporters on April 3 to discuss the report, released 2.5 hours earlier that day, and spoke for nine minutes without taking questions, the three lessons learned he chose to highlight were that:

• mitigation is critical;

• people shouldn't wait on traffic signals during a mass evacuation;

• and texting, rather than making calls on cell phones, saves bandwidth and might prevent a phone system crash like the one that happened this time, when 26,000 people fled their burning neighborhoods.

About that evacuation

As comparatively minor as they seem to be, it's instructive that two of Bach's points relate to the June 26 evacuation. While the AAR doesn't answer many questions related to the evacuation, it does raise *new* questions about it.

On Saturday, the AAR reports, 15 police officers had gone door-to-door and used public-address systems to evacuate southern Mountain Shadows, which included 840 homes and 1,875 people. At one officer for every 56 buildings, it took eight hours.

Yet the report says that on Monday, the city planned for evacuation of Mountain Shadows, Peregrine and Oak Valley with 40 police officers for 2,565 buildings and 7,100 residents. That's one officer for every 64 buildings, and this time, city leadership allotted four hours.

Of course, the city wound up with nothing close to four hours to evacuate, anyway. The "trigger points" of lower Mountain Shadows and the eastern ridge of Queens Canyon wound up being way too close to homes, thanks to environmental factors like high winds and a pyrocumulus cloud that had been building over the city most of the day.

The report doesn't explore whether city workers had adequate wildland fire training to determine when an evacuation should occur, so it's unclear how much the city understood about the pace and location of the fire's movement. Capt. Steve Riker, according to the report, was the one to alert his bosses that a trigger point for evacuations had been hit. Riker was in charge of the four fire apparatus assigned to the city's northwest side that day, but as the *Independent* has reported, he has no wildland certification.

Once Bach announced the evacuation at 4:21 p.m. that Tuesday, Colorado Springs Police Department personnel by all accounts performed heroically in telling residents to leave the area. The AAR indicates that the PD had been prepared all day for such an event, saying sworn personnel — including those usually in plain clothes — were "required to wear uniforms to work" on Tuesday so they'd be ready to carry out evacuations.

But one officer, speaking with the *Independent* on condition of anonymity, disputes that, saying he and others were sent home at 10 or 10:30 a.m. that day to get into uniform. Around 4 p.m., incredibly, they were told they could go home. "Then they said, 'No, come back and go to Mountain Shadows,'" the officer says.

Bottom line: The AAR never says the evacuation call came too late. But Riker, in the April 3 press conference, actually did.

"Throughout the day as I was doing my patrols, I would run into numerous people," he said. "They all asked me the same question: 'Do you think we should leave?' And I told every one of them the same thing: 'You should have left yesterday.'"

Sample problems

Certainly, the AAR (posted at springsgov.com) does cover numerous problems. A few it mentions:

• From the outset, the report says, it became clear that equipment in the Emergency Operations Center was "outdated and slow," a problem that would later lead to "a degradation/delay of service." (It's since received upgrades; see "It wasn't all bad ...")

• The Police Department's mobile command post was moved six times during the fire due to issues related to space, connectivity and proximity to other command operations, resulting in "a significant loss of time for personnel organizing command and control" of law enforcement operations.

• Food, water, medical support and other logistical needs weren't adequate and available to all personnel,

It wasn't all bad...

In its Final After Action Report, Colorado Springs city government notes numerous successes associated with its response to the Waldo Canyon Fire, and also hits on some weaknesses that have already been addressed.

Among the latter is the report's finding that the city's Emergency Operations Center was "outdated and slow." In an emergency, EOC personnel collect, gather and analyze data; make decisions that protect life and property; and disseminate those decisions to agencies and individuals.

On Monday, the city announced that the EOC has since been rebuilt and re-equipped at a cost of $322,944. The state pitched in $100,000 for that.

In addition, the city has been involved in a vigorous training program that involves up to 95 people per month from the city and other agencies who are preparing for various emergencies, including floods and fires.

As for things the city didn't necessarily need to improve, the AAR points out the following strengths from last summer (among others):

• Distribution of radios among mutual aid agencies and law enforcement led to interoperability.

• Opening of shelters for people and pets generally went well, and community partners responded to the needs.

• City staff were reassigned from their normal jobs to the EOC and proved invaluable.

• Volunteers played key roles in various arenas, from logistics distribution to pet care.

• No major injuries were sustained by first responders and support personnel.

• The city received mutual aid support from dozens of agencies, including more than 40 fire departments.

• While 347 homes were lost and two people died, aggressive firefighting efforts prevented 82 percent of homes in the northeast sector from burning.

• Regular news conferences and the use of Twitter provided immediate information to the public.

The city spent millions of dollars on the fire. So far, it's sought $1.4 million from the Federal Emergency Management Agency for non-suppression activities, and $1.3 million from FEMA for firefighting costs. (The city hasn't yet received those funds.) Those figures don't include non-reimbursable expenses, such as regular salaries and vehicle maintenance, which total roughly $787,000.

Laura Neumann, chief of staff for Mayor Steve Bach, said during an April 3 news conference that she didn't know how much it would cost to implement all changes to address what the AAR identifies as deficiencies.

— Pam Zubeck

File photo

Shelter operations were a plus last summer.

and duty rotations weren't well-planned, leading firefighters to go without food and water for long stretches, and causing "many personnel to work multiple consecutive 24-hour shifts, often with little, if any, rest."

• Leadership failed to assign an "accountability officer," who would monitor where each and every firefighter and apparatus are located for safety and deployment purposes.

But for a report designed to "[focus] on the responses of all City departments and divisions that supported the City's response," there seems to be remarkably little related to the city's approach to preparing for, and then fighting, the fire itself.

The *Independent* asked the city earlier this week why the problems listed at the beginning of this story — from the time of the evacuation to the failure to establish a workable staging area — are not addressed. In response, Deputy Fire Chief Tommy Smith says the AAR is an "overarching" assessment of the city's response and that issues specific to certain departments are being addressed internally. For example, he says, fire officials will address the staging-area questions, while police are studying those related to evacuation.

File photo

Who set the fire that caused all the heartache remains unknown today.

Multi-agency mystery

The report also neglects to explore how the city interacted with other agencies. But that's by design, Office of Emergency Management Director Bret Waters said last week: "We think it's valuable to encourage a larger study to look at those interactions, and we'd be happy to participate."

Bach, in fact, said he plans to ask City Council to appropriate $100,000 to join the multi-agency study instigated by Colorado Sens. Mark Udall and Michael Bennet in October. "We fully support that and we're going to participate in that," he said at the April 3 news conference. Chief of Staff Laura Neumann later added, "We are prepared to ask for as much as it will cost."

Here's the thing: Though Bach termed the senators' study a "scientific and comprehensive review," it apparently leans more "scientific" than "comprehensive."

In their letter to Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack, Udall and Bennet sought a study of the ecological aspects of wildland fires in Colorado (not just Waldo), such as how bark beetle infestations and previous controlled burns influence the spread of fire, and rehabilitation issues. They did not request any exploration of inter-agency operational aspects.

Asked for more detail on what they expect from this study, city officials said in a statement, "Please contact U.S. Forest Service or Senator Bennet/Udall. We are only one of many agencies that will be involved."

So we asked Udall spokesman Mike Saccone: Will the study actually look at multi-agency operational issues?

"No," Saccone writes via e-mail. "The review is primarily scientific."

Could there be another review that the Forest Service (which operates under the Agriculture Department) is undertaking, which *does* handle those issues?

"There is no additional USFS study underway, nor are we aware of any other new reviews."

Bennet's office also tells the *Indy* that the Agriculture study "is more targeted to scientific issues."

Finally, we asked the governor's office if there's another study underway. Says spokesman Eric Brown via e-mail, "I am also not aware of any other reviews."

— zubeck@csindy.com

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Leader of the pack

Council's first act on April 16 after the election will be to choose its president

By Pam Zubeck

City Council president gets the same $6,250 a year as the other eight Council members and, like them, has only one vote. But the Colorado Springs City Charter and the Rules and Procedures of City Council vest a great deal of power in Council's leader.

Bradley Flora

Councilor King aims to go from senator to president.

For example, the president sets meeting agendas and becomes acting mayor if the city's top executive is suddenly unable to serve. Which may explain why newly elected members, within two days of the April 2 election, were being lobbied about who they should support.

An official action will come April 16, the day Don Knight, Joel Miller, Keith King, Helen Collins, Jill Gaebler and Andy Pico take office and join at-large councilors Merv Bennett, Val Snider and President Pro Tem Jan Martin. Though things could change, the front-runners seem to be King from District 3, who served 12 years in the state Legislature, and Martin, who's in the midst of her second four-year term on Council.

If outgoing President Scott Hente had his way, he'd anoint Martin his successor, because others simply don't have enough relevant experience. "Let's say I ran for state Legislature and I won," he says. "I think it would be presumptuous of me to say, 'I should be Speaker of the House.'"

Significant powers

Under Council Rules and Procedures, the president runs meetings, can limit debate, and decide disputed matters of procedure. He or she also decides who on Council can speak and when; can call special meetings; and can even appoint special boards, committees or commissions composed of Council members and/or citizens.

This last responsibility would seem to be of great interest to King, who has told the *Independent* that Council could work more efficiently by creating subcommittees to do most of the research on various issues. Those subcommittees would then present to Council in full.

The president serves for two years and can be removed from the position (but not from Council) with a vote of five members. If the mayor is incapacitated, the president steps in until a new mayor is elected.

Sam Mamet, longtime executive director of the Colorado Municipal League, says a council president should be a good listener, communicator, leader, consensus-builder, ambassador and parliamentarian, and also should have a good sense of humor. But there's a more intangible quality, too, Mamet says: "You're going to lead more by strength of personality other than any legal authority in the charter."

Hente says running a meeting goes beyond understanding procedures and rules. "It's understanding how the public plays an integral part in Council proceedings," he says. "It's understanding how the city staff works, so that when you're soliciting input from your colleagues, you're not soliciting pie in the sky, but things that are realistic. It's knowing when you look to the city attorney for guidance.

"When do you cut someone off? When do you look to the staff for advice? I wouldn't have been able to run the meetings well from Day 1. I didn't understand all the dynamics."

One downside? "You get to speak more than anybody else, which means you can screw up more than anyone else," Hente says. "So you have to be able to laugh at yourself."

Hente advocates for Martin because of her six-year tenure and her understanding of city operations. Snider wouldn't name his choice but says he wants someone familiar with Council who's run a Council task force. Martin, who clearly is interested in the job, said she couldn't yet discuss the matter publicly.

King says, through a spokesman via e-mail, "I have been through many leadership races in the House and the Senate. The process is fluid and dynamic and what will happen is anyone's guess. I stand ready to use my leadership experience to advance Council's goals."

Lobbying underway

The day after the election, Knight had made up his mind. "It would be inappropriate for one of the rookies to step into that role," he said. "When you look at the three incumbents, Jan Martin would do a great job, so my vote will go to Jan Martin."

Other newcomers say they haven't decided who they'll support, but they have certain traits in mind.

"I'm looking for someone who has a pretty good background already in this forum, some experience at it," says Pico, from District 6. "It would be more a function of their organizational skills as opposed to ideology."

Gaebler, who says she was contacted to support King for president less than 48 hours after the election, wants someone who can help Council work well together and who understands the city's form of government.

Miller, an Air Force Academy grad and reservist pilot, says he's received several calls about who to back, and it's a turn-off.

"I'm not somebody who is going to form alliances or allegiances," he says. "That's what I campaigned on."

Bennett, entering his third year on Council, says, "I want someone who can communicate closely with all the Council members to help them with their objectives. I want someone that's comfortable working closely in dialogue with the mayor. Someone with experience and knowledge in helping us come to consensus. Someone who's comfortable running the meetings, and someone who commands the respect of the entire group.

"There hasn't been communication of the [Council] leadership and the mayor," he adds, "and that's been part of the problem."

Martin has been at odds with Mayor Steve Bach at times, but Bennett won't answer a question about whether he would support Martin.

So is he interested in the job? "I would be honored to serve, if that's what they wanted me to do. It's not a position I aspire to."

Collins says via e-mail she wants her vote to be secret, if a contest arises.

— zubeck@csindy.com

Go figure

April 2's city election, by the numbers

9,141: votes for Don Knight in D1

3,270: votes for Tim Leigh in D1

$915: amount that Utilities employees, accused by Leigh of having "bought" the election, gave to Knight

$6.79: Angela Dougan's cost per vote in D2 ($34,430 total raised/5,067 votes)

$1.85: Joel Miller's cost per vote in D2 ($12,384 total raised/6,702 votes)

60.6%: D4 voters who favored an African-American candidate

2,342: votes for winning D4 candidate Helen Collins, who is white

5.9%: funding for Andy Pico's D6 campaign from PACs ($5,505 total raised/$325 from PACs)

50.9%: funding for David Moore's D6 campaign from PACs ($21,462.48 total raised/$10,916.66 from PACs)

100%: Self-funding for Ed Bircham's $11,000 campaign

$6,250: annual pay for a City Councilor

20.17: percent of voters who wanted to raise that pay via Question 2

$1 million: estimated extra annual funding from TOPS to city parks due to Question 1 passing

$2.2 million: decrease in city's general fund budget for parks from 2007 to 2013

3: number of women on the new Council

6: members of the Council with military service

1: number of candidates endorsed by the Housing and Building Association who won

1: number of candidates endorsed by the Regional Business Alliance who won

43: age of Joel Miller, the youngest person on Council

57: average age of the new City Council

34.2: median age of Colorado Springs resident, according the 2010 U.S. Census

— Compiled by Chet Hardin and J. Adrian Stanley

Noted

News briefs from the Front Range

Climate a culprit

Climate change contributed to the Waldo Canyon Fire, concludes a report by Environment Colorado titled, "In the Path of the Storm: Global Warming, Extreme Weather and the Impacts of Weather-Related Disasters in the United States from 2007 to 2012."

In a special section dedicated to the wildfires of 2012, the report notes that Waldo was the most destructive fire in Colorado history, but that it was hardly the only fire during an abnormally hot, dry Western summer.

"In 2012, wildfires burned about 9.3 million acres of land in the United States — an area larger than Connecticut and Massachusetts combined, and the third-largest area burned in a single wildfire season since record-keeping began in 1960," it states.

Actually, the environmental advocacy nonprofit points out, 2012 was the hottest year on record, and also contained the hottest month on record, in the contiguous United States. Last year also marked the most widespread U.S. drought in more than 50 years.

The report, which recommends a reduction in carbon emissions, also notes that heat waves, extreme downpours and extreme hurricanes have become more common in recent years. Since 2007, weather-related disasters have been declared in every state but South Carolina. — ***JAS***

State budget passes

Colorado's Republican legislators might not be pleased with it, but last Friday, the General Assembly passed a $20.5 billion budget.

This budget, if signed by Gov. John Hickenlooper, will increase the state's general fund spending by roughly $600 million over the current fiscal year.

So, where will that money be going? According to the Associated Press, K-12 education will be receiving $3.1 billion of the general fund's $8.2 billion of spending. This represents a slight increase over the $3 billion allocated to K-12 the current fiscal cycle.

The AP also reports that state employees will be receiving a 2 percent pay increase, and that $140 million will be spent on police and firefighter pensions. — ***CH***

Manitou shifts 911

Those who dial 9-1-1 in Manitou Springs will hear a new greeting — "El Paso County 911."

The county has taken over dispatch services for the mountain town, in the name of cost savings and greater efficiency. Manitou is paying the county $50,000 annually for the service.

Manitoids who want to make a non-emergency call to police should now call the El Paso County Sheriff's Office at 390-5555, although the Manitou Springs Police administrative number at 685-5407 will continue to work. — ***JAS***

GOP hires new ED

With the change of leadership in the El Paso County Republican Party has come a change in party staff.

Longtime activist Cherish Schaffer has been hired part-time to replace Bill Roy, who came onboard as the party's executive director in July 2011, during the fractious tenure of Chairman Eli Bremer. Jeff Hays was elected in February to replace Bremer, who opted not to run for re-election.

Jon Frazier has also been hired on a part-time basis as headquarters general manager.

Schaffer says she started on April 1. According to a press release, she will focus on "all aspects of outreach, fundraising, coordination with the State Party." — ***CH***

Water deficit foreseen

Demand for water in the Colorado River basin will outpace supply in the coming decades, according to "The 2013 Colorado College State of the Rockies Report Card."

The basin provides water to more than 30 million people and to major industries in Arizona, California, Colorado, Nevada, New Mexico, Utah and Wyoming.

"There already exist imbalances between water supply and demand in the basin and this imbalance is projected to increase in both magnitude and spatial extent over the next 50 years," the report states.

Available in full at tinyurl.com/CC-State-ofthe-Rockies, the 118-page report gives an in-depth analysis of the basin and examines the effects of water use for electricity generation, municipal and industrial operations, and agricultural work. It also points the way toward solutions. Among the findings: "If the basin's entire generation portfolio were renewable, nearly 300,000 [acre-feet] could be saved each year, supplying a full 25% of the deficit the basin will be facing in a decade."

The State of the Rockies Project is in its 10th year, with students having done in-depth research on more than 45 challenges facing the region. — ***JAS***

Compiled by Chet Hardin and J. Adrian Stanley.

Velasquez gets payoff from city

The city has reached an agreement to pay former finance director Terri Velasquez a sum of money to dismiss her wrongful termination lawsuit, according to Velasquez's attorney, Bill Finger.

City Attorney Chris Melcher won't say how much the city will pay, and in fact says the matter is still pending. "The City is still working to resolve this matter. It has not been fully resolved as of this date," he said Monday through a spokeswoman.

That's odd, considering Finger, of Evergreen, says, "I call tell you this, that by April 1, a full and complete settlement agreement had been fully executed."

Finger filed a motion to dismiss Tuesday morning, in which he states that "as a result of settlement reached by the parties [Velasquez] hereby moves the Court to dismiss this matter with prejudice, with each side to pay her, his and its own costs and attorney's fees."

Velasquez was fired in 2011 by Steve Cox, then Mayor Steve Bach's chief of staff. She alleged age and gender discrimination and also made several claims of impropriety, including the mishandling of El Pomar Foundation money for the U.S. Olympic Committee retention agreement in 2008. In an examination of hundreds of pages of documents, the *Independent* wasn't able to corroborate those financial allegations.

Kin Scott

City Attorney Chris Melcher

Bach ordered an investigation, which cost taxpayers $65,000 and found her allegations baseless. Nevertheless, on March 11, City Council met in closed legal session to discuss several legal matters, including one involving "negotiation strategy pertaining to a potential claim ... and disposition matter."

Council President Scott Hente refused to discuss the settlement, and Finger wouldn't divulge the amount. Velasquez, who Finger says is now deputy finance director for the city of Aurora, didn't return a phone call seeking comment.

She's the latest city employee who has, in one way or another, been paid to leave during Bach's tenure ("Take the money and run," News, April 3), a strategy that has cost taxpayers more than $1 million.

— ***Pam Zubeck***

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Sound And Vision

From John Cage to Sonic Youth, experimental music pioneer Pauline Oliveros reflects on a life well lived

By Bill Forman

IONE

From early works with oscillators, tape delays and bathtubs, to her current recordings with an electronic accordion, Oliveros has constantly innovated.

Over the course of her extraordinary career, Pauline Oliveros has had her cutting-edge works commissioned by artists ranging from celebrated choreographer Merce Cunningham to seminal alt-rockers Sonic Youth. She's collaborated with electronic composer Morton Subotnick and played New York City's Lincoln Center in his multimedia opera *The Caucasian Chalk Circle*, which racked up a total of 150 performances.

Most recently, a 12-CD set of her recordings, *Reverberations: Tape & Electronic Music 1961-1970,* was released last year by electronic label Important Records, just in time to commemorate her 80th birthday. A number of those earliest pieces found her pioneering a form of ambient electronica in which she looped tapes between reel-to-reel recorders, a technique that Brian Eno and Robert Fripp would explore in their collaborations a decade later.

Not only that, but Oliveros may also be the only artist alive today who can truthfully claim that legendary avant-garde composer John Cage actually played on one of *her* works.

The daughter of two music teachers, Oliveros grew up in Houston, where she picked up her first musical instrument, an accordion, at age 9. Not long afterward, she performed at a local rodeo as part of a 100-accordion band, and she continues to incorporate that instrument into her music today, albeit in a considerably more electronically enhanced way.

Oliveros also has a black belt in karate; recently finished her third opera with partner Carole Ione; and has adapted meditative techniques into her work as founder of the Deep Listening Institute in upstate New York, where she now resides. In addition to its educational programs, Oliveros' institute has directed the development of Adaptive Use Musical Instruments, which combine hardware and software to provide students with disabilities an avenue for musical expression.

She's performed her music in museums and cathedrals, was honored with the 2012 John Cage Award for outstanding achievement in the arts, and recently recorded an album (which she's punningly described as an "underground hit") in an unused, bomb-proof, two-million-gallon cistern.

As *New York Times* critic John Rockwell put it, "On some level, music, sound consciousness and religion are all one, and she would seem to be very close to that level."

Oliveros will be coming to the University of Colorado at Colorado Springs for a short residency this week, which will culminate in a public performance on Saturday, presented by the university's Peak FreQuency collective. (See sidebar, p. 17.) Last week, the artist spoke with the *Indy* about her earliest sonic experimentation, as well as a legacy of recordings that, upon repeated listenings, reveal music of unparalleled depth and innovation.

***Indy:* I'd like to begin by asking about your piece for Sonic Youth and your collaborations with DJ Spooky. What qualities would you say those artists share with the spirit and substance of your own work?**

Pauline Oliveros: Well, when Sonic Youth did *Goodbye 20th Century*, they intended to play scores by experimental composers like Christian Wolff and La Monte Young and Yoko Ono and so on. And they asked me to participate in this. They thought they were gonna play a score of mine from way back, but I decided to write a piece *for* them.

It was fun to do, and I like the piece — it's been played now by other artists as well. But I like Sonic Youth. I like the spirit of what they do and, you know, their social understandings. I think it's a good group, a great group.

***Indy:* In what ways did you make the piece specifically for them versus something you'd have done for yourself?**

PO: Mainly I wrote for their instruments. And that specifically was two percussionists, which is a little unusual for them, but that's what they had decided to do. And four guitars. And bass guitar. I wrote a piece they could play that could keep renewing itself. Although the outside form was the same, they could play it in different ways.

***Indy:* So it had room for improvisation?**

PO: Oh yeah, there was that, and then there was also a text by Ione that they could perform. The piece was kind of a hexagonal diagram, which gave them choices that are oppositional. And so they can start the rhythm and then somebody else can play the opposite rhythm. So they could work in different ways with that

Oliveros and Tape Music Center colleagues consecrate Morton Subotnick.

diagram, and they handled that very well, I thought. [To hear Sonic Youth's performance of the Oliveros piece in its entirety, go to the online version of this article at csindy.com.]

***Indy:* And then DJ Spooky, you performed together onstage?**

PO: Well, he joined the Deep Listening Band onstage at one point during a concert at the library in Columbia University. And then I played with him at the Tonic in the East Village of Lower Manhattan one or two times. He's a really versatile performer.

***Indy:* Did he play turntables when you performed live?**

PO: No, he played stand-up bass.

***Indy:* I didn't even know he could do that.**

PO: Yeah, well, he can do a lot of things people don't know about. [Laughs.] DJ Spooky and I are still looking to play together again soon. And you know, I've played with a lot of different performers that you might call crossover artists. Like Cecil Taylor for example, we have a DVD out. And then Joe McPhee is a pretty well-known jazz player.

Let's see, who else? Roscoe Mitchell, we've played several times together, and Anthony Braxton. So there are lots of different performers that you would categorize maybe one way, but then it turns out that you can't quite do that.

***Indy:* I also want to ask about last year's 12-CD set of your early electronic works. Listening again to all of those recordings so many years later, what kind of memories and emotions did they bring back?**

PO: Well, certainly it brought back memories of the places where I made those pieces. Some of my electronic pieces from that era are pretty well-known and were already out there. But then there was this whole slew of pieces I made that sat on the shelf until the box set came along. And so the box set doesn't include the pieces that are already out. And so it's wonderful, for me, to have all that music from working with two oscillators and equipment that was never made to make music.

The first piece I made was "Time Perspective," and for that I had a tape recorder that I bought from Sears Roebuck. [Laughs.] And this tape machine was pretty interesting. It had just two speeds, 3¾ and 7½ ips [inches per second], but it also had the capability of recording while hand-winding the tape, so I could get variable speeds, and that was fun. I could record something and then take it up or down an octave.

And for that piece in particular, you know, I didn't have any kind of studio equipment. I just had my tape recorder, so I used cardboard tubes for filters, and I used the bathtub for reverberation.

***Indy:* Which I'm guessing doesn't give you quite as much reverb as a huge cistern?**

PO: No, not quite. [Laughs.] I also used a wooden apple box to amplify small objects with a contact mic. That was my processing: an apple box, bathtub and cardboard tubes!

***Indy:* Let's turn to your primary instrument of choice. People tend to associate the accordion with artists like Astor Piazzolla, or Kurt Weill or, you know, Lawrence Welk. At what point**

Different wavelengths

How UCCS's Peak FreQuency landed a music legend

By Bill Forman

When the Peak FreQuency Creative Arts Collective got started in 2011, one of Jane Rigler and Glen Whitehead's first goals was to bring Pauline Oliveros to Colorado Springs. Avant-garde music's lone female pioneer is a perfect fit for the two UCCS music professors' university outreach program — not only because of her prominent role in what was otherwise almost exclusively a boys' club, but also because of her lasting impact on unexpectedly diverse areas of music.

"We try to connect our students with artists that are very special, unique, vital and interesting," explains Whitehead, who's also director of the music program at UCCS. "Being the only woman in this group of composers, she brought a different perspective to electronic music and its role in our music-making. But she also was responsible for some serious innovations, back when the technology wasn't even there yet."

A big part of the 80-year-old New York artist adding UCCS to her packed schedule, which includes a week-long residency at City University of Hong Kong later this month, is a longstanding friendship with Rigler.

"I was her graduate student at UCSD [the University of California, San Diego] in the early '90s," says the flautist, who found the composer's music and devotion to artistic community building to be a "never-ending source of inspiration."

A decade later, Rigler would recruit Oliveros for a "Relay-NYC!" event she was organizing at New York City's Museum of Modern Art. The event brought together 13 composers and improvisers for a trio of performances throughout the building, during which individual musicians would randomly relocate from one group to the next. In addition to an accordion-wielding Oliveros, the assembly of mobile musicians ranged from electronicist Ikue Mori to Colombian-born artist Ricardo Arias, whose instruments include a bass balloon kit.

"From that point on, we stayed in touch," says Rigler, who dropped in on some of her mentor's classes while doing her own eight-week residency at upstate New York's Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute.

Eiichiro Iwasa

'Popular electronica is completely inspired,' says instructor Jane Rigler, 'by artists like Pauline.'

Like Rigler, Whitehead has a long résumé of musical accomplishments that date back to an early association with one of experimental music's most legendary figures. "I was lucky enough to be able to work with John Cage before he died," says the musician, who at the time was an undergraduate at New England Conservatory of Music. "He was a composer-in-residence for two weeks, and I was playing trumpet in a contemporary music ensemble. I was the only brass player there even *remotely* interested in such things at the time, and it was the best thing that ever happened to me there. It was just a mind-blowing experience for a 21-year-old."

Whitehead and Rigler are hoping to create similarly transformative experiences for their own students, while helping them see the connections between contemporary music and its often strange antecedents.

"What's really interesting about popular electronica is that it's completely inspired, even if subconsciously, by artists like Pauline or Stockhausen or John Cage," says Rigler, citing Aphex Twin and Nine Inch Nails as examples.

As for Peak FreQuency's other mission — to liaison with the rest of the Colorado Springs community through off-campus performances — the challenge is getting audiences to let their guard down long enough to appreciate something that comes off as eccentric, unfamiliar or even downright disturbing.

"I think that what makes us uncomfortable can show us so much about our lives and our values and what we appreciate," says Rigler. "Sound can be a safe place — people turn to music to feel good — but what we want to do is that and a lot more. We want people to feel everything."

— bill@csindy.com

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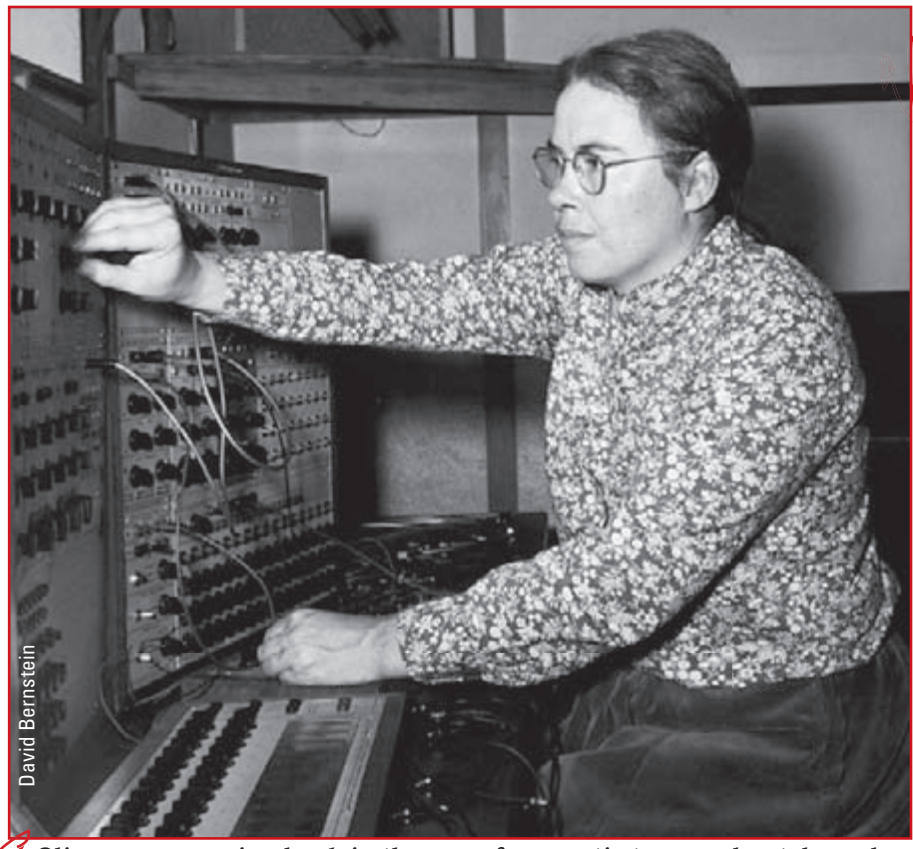

David Bernstein

Oliveros composing back in the age of magnetic tape and patch cords.

did you realize the instrument could be taken in an entirely different sonic direction?

PO: Well, I was always interested in the most new kind of thing I could hear. When I was 16 or 17, I heard some Bartók for the first time, and anytime I heard anything remotely new, I was interested. I actually knew I wanted to be a composer by the time I was 16. So as I got into composition and then improvisation, I wrote some pieces for the accordion and finally began using it to improvise.

***Indy:* What were those early compositions like?**

PO: Oh, well, they were dissonant. I can't even remember exactly, that was very early.

***Indy:* When did you begin processing sounds?**

PO: That kind of happened in 1965. I had begun using tape-delay processing in my electronic music. And then I started to apply it to performing with the accordion.

***Indy:* What kind of tape recorder were you using then?**

PO: I had a couple of Sony triple-7s in the '60s, and I was carrying those around. And that's a load, let me tell you. [Laughs.]

***Indy:* Was this around the time you moved to California?**

PO: No, this was after. I went to California in 1952. I was interested in finding a community of composers and I found that in San Francisco, so I stayed there. And eventually I was offered a job at the University of California, San Diego, because they wanted me to establish an electronic music program, which I did. And then I went to New York because I was performing at [Lincoln Center's] Beaumont Theater for *The Caucasian Chalk Circle.*

***Indy:* Having worked with vintage synthesizers, do you ever find yourself missing all those patch cords?**

PO: Um, yes and no. I used to do a lot of patching, and you know, it still is somewhat necessary. But when I was making my electronic music in the beginning, there wasn't very much patching to do because I was using tape delay and I was generating sounds from two oscillators.

We had a patch bay, like a telephone operator's patch bay, so that we could send signals, but it wasn't as elaborate as, say, the Buchla synthesizer or the Moog. It was about 1966, '67 that I began making music with the Buchla synthesizer, and I had mixed emotions about it, because I liked the sound of the tube oscillators a lot better than the transistor-type oscillators in the synthesizer. I thought those sounded a little thin.

***Indy:* Although tubes got pretty hard to find after a while.**

PO: Yes, but I can still get them.

***Indy:* Do you still have that kind of equipment lying around?**

PO: I have a couple of the tube oscillators, yeah.

***Indy:* So what's your favorite piece of equipment, besides your accordion, that you could never do without?**

PO: Something I could *never* do without?

***Indy:* Or would never *want* to do without.**

PO: [Laughs.] Well, I guess having good speakers would be the next thing. And good microphones. Because the input and the output are absolutely essential. You know, it's hardware that you can't do without. That's *if* you're using amplification.

***Indy:* Do you still take your accordion out to a creek somewhere and**

PO: Well, not lately. But the 17-year cicada is coming back, and we had a cicada festival 17 years ago, so we're gonna have another one in June. So I'll probably have my accordion out down by the river.

Indy: **I'd like to talk about some the ideas behind your Deep Listening Institute. The guitarist Fred Frith — whom you've played with — has talked about the idea of "virtuoso listening." And I'm wondering what advice you might have for people who think of more experimental music as, you know, quote-unquote difficult. What sorts of things should they be listening for, in order to better appreciate it?**

PO: Well, I think the best thing to do would be to get something that disturbs them, and play it over and over again, until they're no longer disturbed.

Indy: **You're not gonna get many people to do that.**

PO: Well, you know, it's up to them. But the experience is worth it. Because you find out quick that the more familiar something becomes, the more interested you are.

Indy: **With a lot of more experimental music, it does seem like there's nothing to hang onto during the first listening, because you're still kind of in uncharted terrain.**

PO: Right, and then the terrain becomes more familiar, and you can find your way around and hang onto something.

Indy: **I wanted to ask you about the distinction between sound and music. I know those are really ultimately just words, but I'm wondering, in your view, if you could identify at what point sound becomes music? What has to happen to it for it to become music?**

PO: It's the way you *listen* to it. You can listen to the sounds of daily life and hear it as music. At least *I* can. [Laughs.]

Indy: **I'm curious about that, actually. When you were a kid growing up, I assume you heard a certain music in your head, as most musicians do. How different was that from what you heard around you, and how similar was it to what you would end up doing?**

PO: Well, I think that I listened to nature a lot. I mean, I certainly heard all sorts of musical ensembles and a wide variety of music: country music, Dixieland jazz, classical music, orchestras. You name it, I had been exposed to it. But the thing that I was *really* fascinated by was the sounds that the insects and birds were making, which was very, very lively and loud in Houston, Texas, where I was born.

CAPSULE

Pauline Oliveros

Saturday, April 13, 7:30 p.m.

UCCS' Centennial Hall, 1420 Austin Bluffs Pkwy.

Free; additional performance and residency event information at uccs.edu/peakfreq.

Indy: **Did they have cicadas down there?**

PO: Yes, they did. And moths. And I loved listening to them. It was a real clamor.

Indy: **Speaking of clamors, Glenn Branca [who released Sonic Youth's first few albums on his Neutral Records label] performed his symphony for a hundred electric guitars at the World Trade Center a few months before 9/11. But more than 50 years earlier, *you* performed with a hundred accordion players at a Texas rodeo.**

PO: I did.

Indy: **I'm guessing the two of those were pretty different. What *do* a hundred accordions actually sound like?**

PO: [Laughs.] Well, I don't know if I can describe it to you. I think that a hundred *anything* sounds pretty impressive.

Indy: **What songs did you play?**

PO: At the rodeo? I can't remember, but I'm sure they were probably patriotic songs, because it was World War II time. Back in the '40s, the accordion was very popular, and the GIs were bringing them back from Europe. In Houston, there were several very large accordion schools, you know, where you could go and take accordion lessons. It was the thing to do, I guess, at that time.

Indy: **I once got to interview John Cage, and I remember him talking about how much he loved Oakland, which is where you were director of the Tape Music Center. Did you two know each other? Did you ever collaborate?**

PO: Yes, I knew John. I was commissioned to make a piece for the Merce Cunningham Dance Company in 1969. My piece was called "In Memoriam: Nikola Tesla, Cosmic Engineer," and the performers for that piece included John Cage, David Tudor and Gordon Mumma.

So I did know John, but who I knew better was David Tudor, who was a very important mentor to me. He had a very beautiful kind of concentration, and stillness, because he was an absolute virtuoso in whatever he did.

Indy: **Sometimes when people look back on a body of work, they discover something about their younger self, like maybe they were more advanced than they'd remembered. Have you ever looked back and been surprised by something you did so early on?**

PO: Yeah, well, I did have some of those feelings, you know. "I did that, huh?" So that's kind of interesting from this distance of 40 years or so.

Somebody just the other day was saying — oh yeah, it was [musician] Mike Bullock — he said he was listening to something on the radio that sounded like Pauline Oliveros 50 years ago. And it turned out to be a piece somebody had just made recently! [Laughs.] So some people are picking up on some of the things which had happened that long ago.

Indy: **It took a little while.**

PO: Yeah, it does take a while. It takes time.

— bill@csindy.com

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SEVEN DAYS to LIVE

Alberto Leopizzi

Alla famiglia

How we celebrate, and mourn, captures the imagination of Ormao

By Joshua Michael Torres

It's a dance about food. Family recipes, to be precise. And choreographer Chung-Fu Chang wants the audience to feel it.

"I asked them to use their movement to describe one smell from the ingredient," he says of his dancers.

His work, "As Vines, We Walk Along the Path ..." was created as part of Ormao Dance Company's spring performance, done in partnership with the Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center's multidisciplinary program *Families*. Ormao's effort, *Breaking Bread*, features four components, each created by a different choreographer: Tsui-Shuang Lai, Jeff Bickford, Mollie Wolf and Chang were enlisted to explore the important inner-workings of the family unit.

Chang, an internationally renowned dancer, choreographer and current Colorado State University associate professor, wrote "Vines" while inspired by traditional recipes and their familial preparation. "It's about sharing family tradition and family culture," the Taiwan native says. To better unify his dancers, Chang gathered some of their traditions and recipes and mashed them together in a "puree" of dance. Recipes for enchiladas, kabobs and more were all handed to Chang to digest.

'The dancers have incorporated their own grief.'

The 15-minute long final product — in which the performers have the dual role of representing the ingredients and the preparation process — took pieces from each recipe and mashed them up into the proverbial melting pot. The objective, Chang says, is to transcend the idea of one recipe over another and to expose the universality of family tradition.

On the other side of the spectrum, Wolf worked with the idea of how a family copes with loss. Her grief-stricken piece, "Rehearsal for the Aftermath," was inspired by her own family losing their home in the Waldo Canyon Fire.

Wolf says her story is written non-linearly, and intentionally vague, to ease the audience into their own particular emotions rather than hers. "The fire is still very recent in a lot of people's memories," she says. "Even those who did not lose their home will have a recognizable reference."

The audience arrives at the beginning of a mourning period. Wolf and her dancers fluctuate from intense cathartic movement back to static despair. They break off and hold each other in desperate poses of grief, then slowly coalesce to grieve together.

Wolf's dancers had to learn how to improvise under her direction, yet keep to the story. "I let happy accidents happen," the Springs native says. "I started with a lot of improvisations, trying to teach them the specific way that I move with my body emotively."

The original soundscapes of digital composer Albert Mathias add an intense foreboding quality that has no escape. The sounds — cold and electronically disconnected — are reminiscent of Aphex Twin, Portishead and *Still*-era Nine Inch Nails. And when emotions get furious, they're turned past 11. For the set, Wolf has nothing more than an old box television and two ruined prop doors to hint at the presence of fire.

As with Chang's dance, this is as much about connecting with a personal experience as it is sharing one person's story.

"The dancers have incorporated their own grief," she says. "There are quite a few pieces where they are asked to improvise, bringing their real emotional selves rather than perform a specific character."

— scene@csindy.com

CAPSULE

Breaking Bread

Friday, April 12, Saturday, April 13, 7:30 p.m.; Sunday, April 14, 2 p.m.

Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center, 30 W. Dale St.

Tickets: $25/adv, $30/door, $15 students, seniors and children; for more information, visit ormaodance.org.

4Play

Other options to get you excited about your week.

Backup plan
Dirty Girl Mud Run, 8 a.m., Saturday, April 13 at Ram Off-Road Park

Before you know it
Neil deGrasse Tyson, April 17 at UCCS (sorry, sold out)

Potato pick
Now on hulu.com: 63,000-plus episodes of *The Itchy & Scratchy Show*

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10 Wednesday

music

It's easy to forget that the **Doobie Brothers** already had a half-dozen hits before Michael McDonald came onboard to sail them into shallower yacht-rock waters. The California band began its career playing Hell's Angels hangouts, where you can imagine early songs like "Jesus Is Just Alright" and "Long Train Runnin'" fitting in a lot better than second-incarnation hits like "What a Fool Believes." With founding frontman Patrick Simmons and Tom Johnston leading the band these days, McDonald's dulcet tones shouldn't really be missed. And since 2010's Ted Templeman-produced *World Gone Crazy* album actually went Top 40, there's a good chance the band will be more energized than anyone has a right to expect. Find out tonight at the **Pikes Peak Center** (190 S. Cascade Ave., pikespeakcenter.com). Tickets are $48.50 to $68.50, and showtime is 8 p.m. **— *BF***

11 Thursday

lecture

University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill professor Bart D. Ehrman has too many books with his name on the binding to list them all here. But he's probably best known for 2008's *New York Times* best-selling *God's Problem*, on why we suffer, and 2007's (also *NYT*-bestselling) title on which tonight's 7 o'clock free talk at Colorado College's **Armstrong Theatre** (14 E. Cache la Poudre St., coloradocollege.edu) is based: **"Misquoting Jesus: Scribes Who Changed the Scriptures and Readers Who May Never Know."** Ehrman's list of recent media appearances is also too long to recite, so let's just say the engaging biblical scholar's been making the rounds on shows ranging from the perhaps-expected *History Channel* to the less-so *Daily Show with Jon Stewart*. **— *KA***

12 Friday

stage

Being of the generation I am, I can't hear the phrase "Planes, Trains & Automobiles" without thinking fondly back to the late-'80s John Hughes flick starring John Candy and Steve Martin. But the seventh annual ***Six Women Playwriting Festival*** at **Millibo Art Theatre** (1367 Pecan St., sixwomenplayfestival.com) is definitely not that, even though that phrase, with the add-on "The Comings and Goings of Life," happens to be this year's theme. Catch its array of 10-minute acts, from playwrights hailing from Georgia, Washington, New York and California from April 11 through 28. Thursday's 7 p.m. shows are $15. Friday and Saturday's 8 p.m. shows and Sunday's 2 p.m. shows are all $20. And catch our review of the plays in next week's *Indy*. **— *MS***

13 Saturday

film

Who likes short shorts? I LOVE them! Especially when they've won prestigious awards at festivals such as the Aspen Shortsfest, Palm Springs International ShortFest and DC Shorts. They're an art form of their own, and tonight you'll get your chance to view 10 of these amazing films — including Oscar-winner *Paperman*, and nominees *Curfew*, *Asad* and *Fresh Guacamole* — as the Rocky Mountain Women's Film Festival hosts its **Fourth Annual Night of Award-Winning Shorts** at **Stargazers Theatre & Event Center** (10 S. Parkside Drive, stargazerstheatre.com). Doors open at 6:30, and tickets cost $25. **— *MB***

14 Sunday

music

Years ago I watched a movie set in Barcelona, Spain. I'll never forget when two of the film's lead characters told a pretty young American tourist, "Only unfulfilled love is romantic." While my ever-longing love for great classical and Spanish composition might not exactly be considered unfulfilled, I do know that it is *very romantic*. And at 2:30 today (and 8 p.m. yesterday) at the **Pikes Peak Center** (190 S. Cascade Ave., pikespeakcenter.com, $19 to $59), the Colorado Springs Philharmonic offers a chance to fulfill this love with four pieces from four composers: Arriaga, De Falla, Grieg and Turina in ***Gardens of Spain***. Now, that's what I call romance. **— *MG***

15 Monday

music and cars

There's probably only one place tonight, at least locally, where you can enjoy a **car show and live hip-hop**. It's **Sunshine Studios** (3970 Clearview Frontage Road, sunshinestudioslive.com), which is following up its Saturday night Awakening show — a fundraiser for the local anti-bullying Devin-4Life Foundation — with a Rockin Penguin Promotions concert event. Among more than a half-dozen performers is Izzy Dunfore (say it out loud — so clever!), an Iowa-bred hip-hop artist whose YouTube videos tend to attract a crowd. The all-ages show is $8/presale, $10/door. **— *KW***

16 Tuesday

art

Where the mountains meet the plains, where urban life meets the wilderness, where small towns meet the prairie's vast expanse, that's where Robert Adams will be, camera in hand. The photographer, who grew up in Denver and taught English at Colorado College, is now the topic of a new **exhibit** at the **I.D.E.A. Space** (825 N. Cascade Ave., theideaspace.com), opening today with a special preview reception at 4:30. This, after a large retrospective left the Denver Art Museum last year and is now touring internationally. Adams' alma mater show will be on display through June 15. **— *EA***

Contributors: Edie Adelstein, Kirsten Akens, Miguel Bustamante, Bill Forman, Matthew Grieson, Matthew Schniper and Kirk Woundy.

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Appetite

Mountainous meal

Chain rocks Mexican supper in University Village

By Bryce Crawford

With its bombastic size, clinical efficiency and dressed-up takes on Southwestern Mexican cuisine — or "Mountain Mex," as the Colorado chain calls it — the fifth Hacienda Colorado is damn near a theme-park experience. Call it Disneyland for On the Border lovers.

Brienne Boortz

Barbacoa tacos with blissful house-made tortillas.

Through the towering front doors lies a restaurant that seats more than 550 people at one time, with either an elevator or a wide, industrial-looking staircase shuttling diners between two levels. Traditional ironworks mesh with nightclub hallmarks, like garage-door walls, a bronze-tiled bar, and even an upstairs-patio fire-pit that looks to be filled with flaming diamonds. Anyone for body shots?

With bulky flatware and purple, plastic water cups the size of Big Gulps, it just continues once you're seated. Behind the upstairs bar, a tap spouts $6.50 Hacienda Gold house margaritas (which aren't bad, though swapping the triple sec-to-Margaritaville Gold Tequila ratio couldn't hurt). Even the available sides of sauce come in multitudes; we counted 11.

But if it's the fried and friendly road to Mexico you seek, you could do a lot worse. In fact, as far as generic Tex-Mex goes — not talking taco trucks, here — I'd call Hacienda Colorado the best in town.

It all starts with the tortillas, and these stand out regardless. Thinner than La Casita's masterpieces, these misshapen, palm-sized, house-made beauties are soft, floury and deeply flavorful. They're an exciting pairing with the plump portobello fajitas ($14.99), an exemplary bit of fun that's priced better, for the portion size, than a lot of others.

Also kick-ass with the rounds: the chorizo fundido ($8.99), wherein a baked shield of hot and salty cheese hides a mix of ground pork and grilled onions stewed in a sweetish sauce. Cups of pork green chili ($3.79) and tortilla soup ($3.79) come off OK, though I'm not a fan of the included rice.

"Anything with barbacoa," was the recommendation from our server, so out came the Slow-Roasted Barbacoa Tacos ($10.79). The menu boasts of a various accoutrement — chipotle aioli, crema limón, pico — but I mostly noticed succulent shreds paired with crisp, limey greens. Aside from some watery black beans spiced like a Christmas candle, the tacos were excellent, and beautifully plated on a pale blue, flecked, round thing.

The epic Applewood-Roasted Carnitas & Spinach Salad ($9.99) put the smoky, shredded meat in two balls at either end, and, somewhat overwhelmingly, filled the middle with fat greens, grilled pineapple, cranberries, jicama, bacon, carrots, red onion and a chipotle-lime vinaigrette.

The Chipotle Baby Back Rib Combo ($14.99) was interesting, mainly because it left me wishing I'd ordered the deliciously edgy side of chile relleno à la carte for $3.99. Though bearing no smoke or char to speak of, the ribs easily pulled away from the bone and were well-covered in a hot, bold sauce.

Then there was the Applewood-Smoked Chicken Changa ($11.59), a fried burrito with a name so cutesy, our server brought us two (even though one of us had actually ordered tamales). Then she checked on us. Then she did it again. Then a manager stopped by to bus our plates, which we declined. Then *that* happened again, which we politely declined again. This bothersom dance only ended when we did, indeed, clean our plates.

But the chimichanga was fine, with savory chunks of chicken that I do not recommend pairing with nacho-cheese sauce; and the inevitable sopapillas (six for $3.49) were fine, too, if a little dense. Nothing I'd complain about, and, all told, part of a meal much more satisfying than I'd expected from a gargantuan dealer of the done-before.

— bryce@csindy.com

CAPSULE

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SIDE Dish

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Play time

The sawdust has cleared after the latest round of renovations at the Broadmoor (1 Lake Ave., broadmoor.com), not to return until next spring's overhaul of Charles Court into a new Italian concept. **PLAY at the Broadmoor**, the new six-lane bowling alley and game room inside the Broadmoor West complex, is now open, complete with a Colorado-spirit-friendly bar and expansive, casual lounge menu with kid-friendly items.

You can view the full, eclectic menu online, but here's a handful of interesting options: Leopold Bros. Blackberry Liqueur shaved ice, boozy and non-alcoholic milk shakes, white truffle Parmesan popcorn, matzo ball soup, a roasted jalapeño corn dog, smoked trout sushi rolls, and dessert marshmallows with cotton candy, orange blossoms and Chartreuse (French liqueur).

The **Golden Bee** also just (re)opened, with doubled interior space and a new rooftop patio. Giant yard glasses of beer still taunt sea-level suckers, while the single-page food menu has also received a re-touching. Look for items like Scotch eggs, a ham-and-cheddar pretzel roll, sautéed calf liver, and scrumpets (lamb shoulder) with mint vinegar. Both eateries serve late; call for updated hours.

There will be beer

Front Range Barbeque (2330 W. Colorado Ave., frbbq.com) has added a new beer component to its popular Wednesday night music series: guest brewery representatives on hand for special pourings weekly, into summer months. Avery is on hand tonight, April 10, with five IPAs; Firestone Walker heads up April 17 with a fusion wheat beer and its Wookey Jack black rye IPA; April 24 brings Upslope and its Jasmine IPA firkin and Belgian pale ale; May 1 sees Ska and a limited spin on its vanilla porter, among other brews. Also look for more "Meet the Brewer" nights in tandem with Focus on the Beer, soon.

Froyo on the hill

Monument has (somewhat belatedly) joined the self-serve froyo craze with month-old **In the Moo** (491 W. Hwy. 105 #104, 481-1229). Despite a claim on its Facebook page that it serves "all natural Colorado made flavors," the probiotic-packing product is actually coming from Arkansas-based Honey Hill Farms — the best-tasting yogurt on the market according to owners, the Gogolewski family. Current flavors include sea salt caramel pretzel, cinnabun and birthday cake.

World of worm-craft

Urban gardeners, take note: **Rocky Mountain Worm Company** (rockymountainwormcompany.com) just celebrated its grand opening of a retail store at 411-A Tia Juana St., near Platte Avenue and Circle Drive. Worms, worm castings (essentially, poop), worm compost tea and worm cocoons are all available along with other organic soil amendments like coconut coir (water-holding fibers).

— Matthew Schniper

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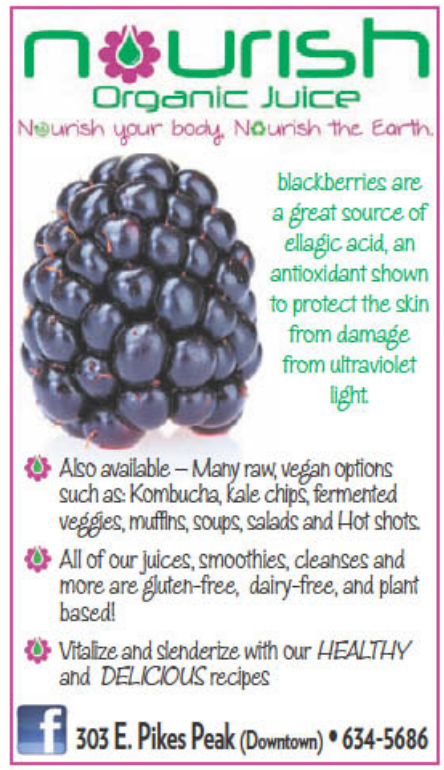
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I bypass the Buzzer, a cold-brewed best-seller said by my friendly barista to deliver the equivalent of around five shots of espresso. (My nervous system tenses even around the thought of that anxious buzz.) So the **Cafe Belgium** ($3.09/small) it is: regular brewed coffee blended with heavy whipping cream, a couple spoons of Ghirardelli chocolate powder and a nip of DaVinci almond syrup, topped with a blast of whipped cream.

Result: velvety awesomeness that at first heads toward a dark hot chocolate, where the tongue perceives the powder's micro-grit inside the thick creaminess. Then the coffee notes speak up, not bitter or as strong as espresso, but balanced, just before the almond essence chimes in for a smooth finish. Purchase a **Scotch-a-Roo** ($1.60) for a later sweet snack: a peanut butter Rice Krispies square capped in a thick chocolate layer with pretty melted butterscotch adornment. — ***Matthew Schniper***

Top That! Pizza

3659 Austin Bluffs Pkwy., 598-9614, topthatpizza.com

Choosing your own ingredients, Subway-style, can be a fun little exercise in pie-crafting. But when I was at Top That! last week, it sort of felt like I was short the 8-year-old who would *really* get a kick out of it. Nonetheless, when dropping in on this three-state chain, it's on the customer to choose a crust, cheeses and toppings from a fairly extensive selection; then it's sent through a 540-degree convection oven for about 2½ minutes.

Some thoughts on our two 10-inch pies ($7.49), a Zorba the Veggie and a build-your-own: The ingredients in both held up well once tableside, including added Parmesan and Pecorino Romano; the Zorba's multigrain crust offered real depth, while the Italian White on the personal pizza was pretty generic; both offered chewy crusts that tended to sag toward the middle; and, overall, the quality was better than a good frozen pizza, but not to where you'd want it brought to your door. — ***Bryce Crawford***

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In honor of *Colorado Brews'* pilot episode screening this past Saturday on Rocky Mountain PBS, I pick up featured beermaker Crabtree's bestselling **Ginger Bee** (around $10/six-pack), a 6.5-percent ABV blonde ale brewed with a couple pounds of fresh-cut ginger and 60 pounds of orange blossom honey per 10-barrel batch.

The honey notes explode from the bouquet, creating aromatic ecstasy. Sips are crisp and effervescent, with CO2 bubbles creating a Champagne-like show rising in my glass. Honey pervades the taste, but not in a cloyingly sweet or Braggot-style way, instead fading into a German Kölsch-like breadiness. (American 2-row pale malts are actually used with Cascade hops.) I don't detect any ginger, though. Assistant brewer Andrew Sheffield later conjectures by phone that I'd likely nabbed a "more mature" pack; over time, the ginger and hops recede while honey amplifies, he says. — ***Matthew Schniper***

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Film

Heady heist

***Trance** (R)*

By MaryAnn Johanson

Movies are inherently hypnotic, while also ridiculous. The more entertaining the illusions with which we're presented, generally the less plausible they are. But we go to the movies to escape reality, not to find it.

Focus on this (motion) picture and tell me what you see. Or what you think you saw. Trance will leave you questioning.

And so Danny Boyle's deliciously preposterous *Trance* might be the most movie-ish movie ever, at least in the genre taxonomy of movies not based on comic books, cartoons or toys. It's cinematic nonsense for grown-ups, one that hopes you'll be convinced that it's an intellectual game of cat-and-mouse instead of a demolition derby.

The misdirections and red herrings scattered about like enigmatic confetti end up being even more ridiculous than they at first appear, though there's never a sense of laziness about them. The whole shebang simply embraces its own absurdity from the get-go.

We're drawn in when James McAvoy's Simon, an auctioneer at a high-end London house, breaks the fourth wall and explains the sort of security his establishment employs, and how it would thwart an attempted heist. His direct gaze, and how it blurs the line between a character speaking fictionally and a real person in the form of a likable, familiar actor conveying fact, anchors us firmly on his side.

Which he needs, because he soon runs afoul of a criminal gang and finds himself in situations way out of his depth. But Simon isn't real, and intriguingly becomes even less real as *Trance* unveils its full scope.

Simon happens to be on duty when Franck (Vincent Cassel) springs a heist to steal the Goya masterpiece "Witches' Flight" as it's up for auction and expected to fetch more than £20 million. In between when Simon spirits the painting off the auction floor for safekeeping and Franck comes into possession of it, the painting disappears. It's no spoiler to reveal that the only person who could have pulled off this heist within in a heist is Simon himself ... and that because Franck wallops Simon in the head, Simon can no longer remember what he did or where the Goya is.

The more I think on *Trance* — partly based on a 2001 British TV movie by Joe Ahearne and whipped up into Boyle style by his frequent screenwriter collaborator John Hodge — the more I discover little back alleyways and possibilities that warp my perception of what I saw. The film teases you, making you wonder how much of what you're seeing is "real" and how much of it is warped through the characters' perception.

Enter hypnotherapist Elizabeth (Rosario Dawson), brought in by Franck to work with Simon to find the painting, when torturing him fails to crack his amnesia story. What follows is a sidetrack into sly, dry comedy, as Franck's gang of bad guys ends up getting almost as much group therapy as Simon gets individually, a delightfully snarky little detour that helps make this one of the most original heist flicks ever. Hey, criminal gangs are nothing but dysfunctional families, it turns out. But the very fact of Elizabeth-the-hypnotherapist as part of the plot also raises other questions, such as: Are "sustained posthypnotic suggestions" truly as "difficult" as she says they are?

Our experience of all movies are their own sort of sustained posthypnotic suggestion, as how we reconsider them often long outlasts the experience of consuming them. *Trance* indeed holds the power to hypnotize us in that way, ridiculous as that may be.

— scene@csindy.com

Film

Medicine show

42 **(PG-13)**

By Scott Renshaw

At a pivotal moment in the new Jackie Robinson biopic *42*, Brooklyn Dodgers owner Branch Rickey (Harrison Ford) tries to console Robinson (Chadwick Boseman), who's furious over the abuse and humiliation he's required to endure stoically as the first black player in major-league baseball.

Chadwick Boseman plays Jackie Robinson well, but there's no edge to this morality tale.

"You're medicine, Jack," Rickey solemnly intones, trying to impress upon the player his position as someone who can facilitate the cure for a great societal ill. But within the context of the film, it starts to mean something slightly different.

The cinematic biopic has often felt chained to convention in its tone and rhythms, as hilariously emphasized in the genre parody *Walk Hard*. Make the subject of that biopic a figure as revered as Jackie Robinson, and the background context one as potentially discomfiting as institutional racism, and you've got the ingredients for something that's even less inclined to take risks.

Writer/director Brian Helgeland (*Payback*) earnestly serves up a landmark historical moment by the spoonful, so that there's never any room for doubt that this medicine is good for us.

That's unfortunately evident from the outset, as sportswriter Wendell Smith (Andre Holland), who would become Robinson's friend, narrates a prologue reminding us, *Even after African-Americans served honorably in World War II, did you realize there was still racism in America circa 1945?*

Branch Rickey certainly realizes it, even as he begins scouting the Negro Leagues for a player he can ultimately bring up to the Dodgers. He settles on Robinson, a gifted but proud 26-year-old who is invited to spring training in Florida in 1946, then faces skepticism and hostility in the minor leagues before even getting a shot at the big time in 1947.

Through the first hour, at least, there's the promise of an unconventionally entertaining approach to Robinson's saga. Ford plays Rickey as an appealing combination of savvy businessman and Bible-quoting moral crusader, unwavering in his commitment to his radical idea. There's even more compelling material in Robinson himself, well-played by Boseman as a firebrand with a low threshold for being pushed around.

A terrific sequence in an early spring training game finds Robinson getting into the head of an antagonistic Dodgers pitcher, stealing his way around the bases in an enthusiastic display of confidence in his own ability. Would *42* be prepared to show Robinson's joy for the game beaten to death by a trailblazing role that requires him to play the perfect non-threatening gentleman?

But there's almost no time devoted to understanding the arc of how this experience affects Robinson as a player and as a man. Instead, Helgeland begins to structure *42* as a string of teachable moments and homilies.

Dodgers players prepare a petition refusing to play with Robinson, and manager Leo Durocher (Christopher Meloni) responds with an angry lecture; the Philadelphia Phillies' owner threatens to refuse to have his team take the field against Robinson and the Dodgers, and Rickey lectures him on standing before God's judgment; Kentucky-born Dodgers star Pee Wee Reese (Lucas Black) worries about receiving threatening letters before a series in Cincinnati, and decides on an unusual public show of support for Robinson. At every available opportunity, *42* makes sure we understand it's about righteous people standing up righteously and doing the righteous thing, often while batting righteous-handed.

Perhaps the most frustrating thing about a film like *42* is how comfortable it wants to make a mainstream audience feel about the lines between the good guys and the bad guys. The representatives for the racist opposition faced by Robinson are generally painted in the most buffoonish terms, most notably Phillies manager Ben Chapman (Alan Tudyk), who chatters a non-stop stream of slurs.

There's a hint of something more complicated in the scene where a young boy begins parroting his father's shouts of the "n-word," then finds himself confused by seeing his hero Reese embrace Robinson. Yet that level of complexity is generally buried beneath the speeches and hagiography.

With all the potential for finding new angles in a story so many people think they already know, Helgeland chooses instead simply to give audiences the stuff he thinks is good for them, all while assuring them that of course they're not the ones who actually need any medicine at all.

— scene@csindy.com

RatingsWrapUp

	Indy	Hollywood Reporter	Rotten Tomatoes	Variety
42 (PG-13)		NOT REVIEWED	NOT REVIEWED	NOT REVIEWED
Evil Dead (R)				
The Place Beyond the Pines (R)				
Stoker (R)				
Trance (R)				

KEY: Brilliant | Enjoy | Wait for DVD | Lame

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CineFiles

Tom Green Live (NR)

Image Entertainment

It's hard to believe that it's been nearly 20 years since Tom Green first hit MTV. What's even harder to believe is that while so many other MTV phenoms have become nothing more than *Trivial Pursuit* questions, Green has managed to stay under-the-radar and still relevant, from hosting a popular Internet talk show from his living room to this latest endeavor, a stand-up comedy tour that hones his quirky, unpredictable comedy into a hilarious hour-long set. In between his popular catchphrases and antics, he tackles topics like his battle with cancer and the current Internet-driven social disconnect. Also included is a career retrospective that will make you want to dig out those *Tom Green Show* VHS tapes for old time's sake. Just like when he originally appeared, Green isn't everybody's cup of tea, but old fans will be pleasantly rewarded. ***— Louis Fowler***

Sexy Evil Genius (R)

Lionsgate

The best that can be said of this noir-lite, straight-to-DVD outing is that it won't leave enough of a mark to stain the résumés of its well-known stars. *Sexy Evil Genius* is at its most promising in the first half-hour, when straight-laced Seth Green, sexy and mysterious Michelle Trachtenberg, and boisterous Harold Perrineau find themselves at the same dive bar anticipating the arrival of the same ex-girlfriend (Katee Sackhoff). As they determine their respective impacts on their common lover's life and unpack the rumor that she got away with killing a recent boyfriend by acting insane, they get closer to the truth behind their gathering. Once Sackhoff arrives, however, the film steps right out of its workable premise and into a web of deceit too pointlessly twisty to bother keeping up with. The result is an uneven outing whose detours are more fun than its destination. ***— Justin Strout***

The Sweeney (R)

Entertainment One

Based on a popular cult British television show, this recent big-budget adaptation starring gruff bad-ass everyman Ray Winstone is a rollicking surprise that will leave you seeking out the old series. Winstone is Jack, head of the Sweeney, the special crimes outfit of the London Police Department that uses rather unorthodox methods, including baseball bats, to nick the baddies. When a murder during a robbery threatens to shut down the department, the gang has to go off-duty to solve who's behind it. Sure, it may sound like a typical cops-and-robbers shoot-'em-up, but as directed by Nick Love, it's got such a cool *Get Carter*-meets-*Mission: Impossible* vibe that you'll wish you were watching this on the big screen. It's a shame that importing feature films based on British cult classics tends to be such a hard sell to Americans. ***— Louis Fowler***

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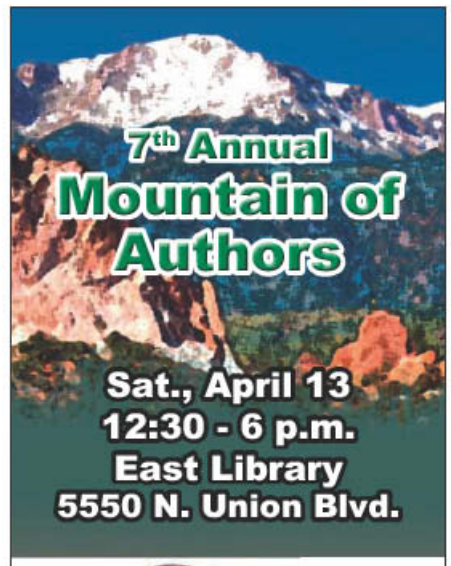

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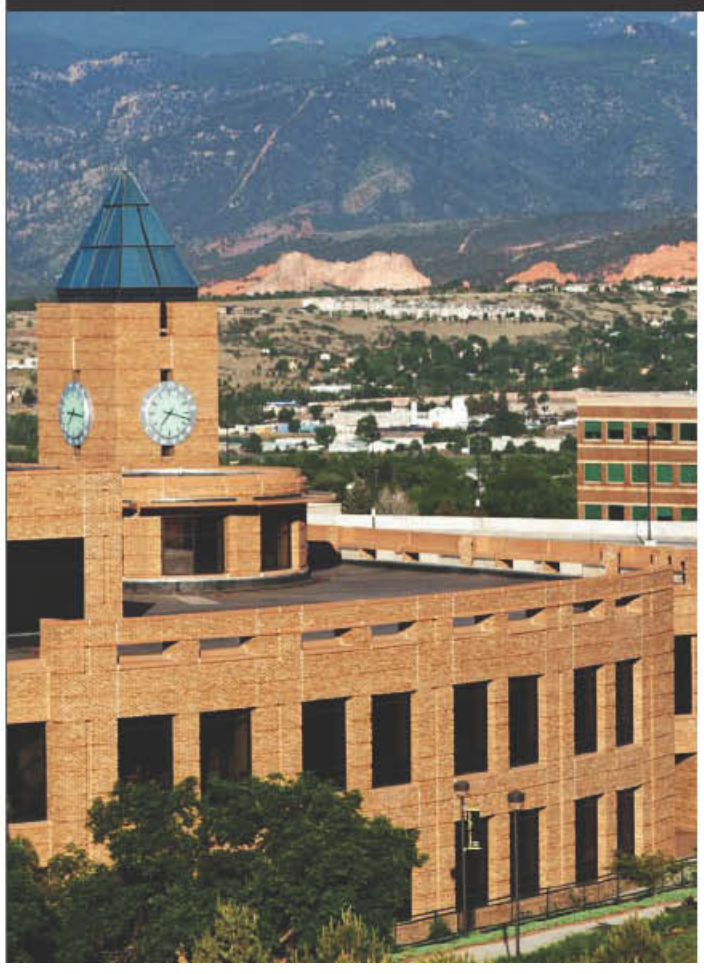

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Film

A rewarding rumination

***The Place Beyond the Pines** (R)*

By Scott Renshaw

It feels like an act of subversion at the moment for an American film to be this satisfyingly meandering, as if it's discovering how loose and confounding reality can be as it goes along. *The Place Beyond the Pines* defies labeling. Maybe "emotional thriller" comes closest to describing it, but that's not quite right, either.

Ryan Gosling delivers a subtly brilliant performance in this film where nuance leads, yet themes strike deep to the core.

Pines features two intertwined stories about a criminal and a cop, and, rather wonderfully and unexpectedly, their fears about fatherhood. But this is not a film about family. It lets us follow around two men who are never quite what they seem, even to themselves, men who suffer under the delusions that surround their actions. And yet, this is not a film about identity. It is a story that doles itself out parsimoniously, and yet it is not concerned with tricking you or fooling you or even holding you in suspense. And yet it's not an art film, as director Derek Cianfrance's *Blue Valentine* might be called.

It's more like a broody, restive drama that Martin Scorsese might have made in the 1970s. A film that isn't in the least bit mysterious about what's going on, but leaves you turning over what it all means — afraid that maybe it means nothing more than how the world and how humans are a mess, collectively and individually.

As if the unforeseen untidy pleasure of rummaging through the experience of a film long after it's finished weren't enough, there is rumpled greatness in the central performances: Ryan Gosling as Luke, a stunt motorcycle driver who's turned to bank robbery to support his infant son, and Bradley Cooper as Avery, a straight-arrow cop who is uncomfortable wearing the mantle of "hero" when it is thrown over him.

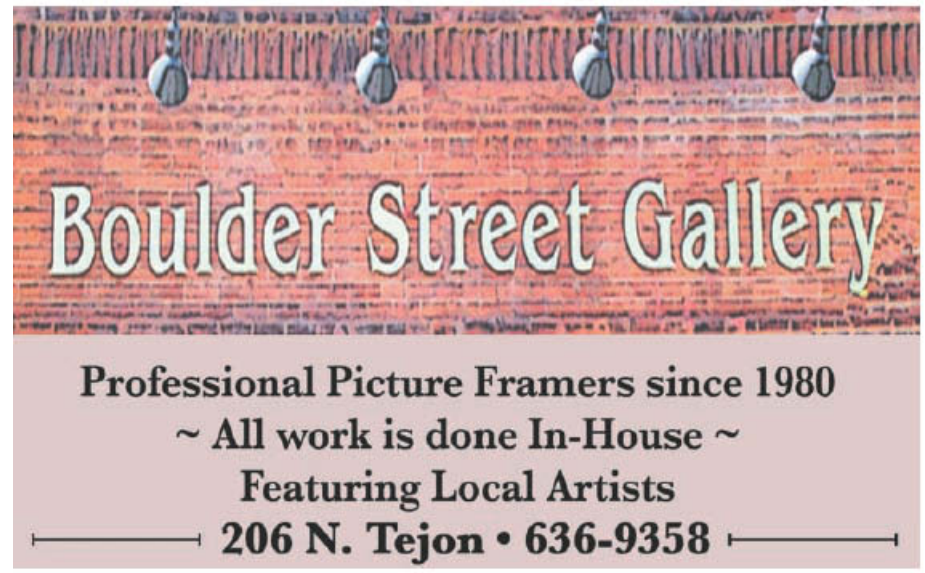
They bring surprising emotion to what could be uninspired, generic characters, making detours into the intriguing contradictions with which Cianfrance (writing with Ben Coccio and Darius Marder) burdens them. They feel wholly plausible as contradictions that somehow *aren't* contradictions, with hints that they're more alike than unlike.

That's the thing that I keep coming back to: the provocative notion that perhaps Avery, at sea in a swamp of corruption in the Schenectady, N.Y., police department, has more in common with Luke than with his fellow officers. Luke is, at least, an honest crook. And there's a shared smallness, almost a naïvete, to their separate ambitions and expectations for themselves in their work. There's also a shared fear over what happens to sons who lack fathers to guide them as they grow up.

There's nothing grand or sweeping in Luke or Avery's stories, or in how they cross paths. Cianfrance's long, uncut takes are often languid, as in our first introduction to Luke, where he's strolling through a roadside carnival to his stunt show. Or else they're ironically understated, as in how a patrolling Avery, in our introduction to him, gets sucked into an ongoing police chase seemingly as an afterthought.

There's mostly a disquieting intimacy at work, wherein the hopes and anxieties of two men are laid bare only to be dashed. The place beyond *The Place Beyond the Pines* is one haunted by wondering how much of that is their own fault, how much was inevitable no matter what they did, and whether anything at all could have led either down different paths.

— scene@csindy.com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AudioFile

CAPSULE

Johnny Marr, with Alamar
Sunday, April 21, 8 p.m.
Gothic Theatre, 3263 S. Broadway, Englewood
Tickets: $25-$28, all ages; gothictheatre.com, 303/788-0984.

How late is now?

The Smiths' Johnny Marr releases his (very) long-awaited solo debut

By Tom Lanham

Ever since he left his legendary UK outfit The Smiths back in 1987, guitarist Johnny Marr has been content to stand in the shadows, strumming behind such luminaries as The The, the Cribs, the Pretenders, Bryan Ferry, Modest Mouse, Bernard Sumner's outfit Electronic, even film composer Hans Zimmer on Christopher Nolan's *Inception* soundtrack. "And there were some projects that nearly happened," he recalls. "One being doing a record with Yoko Ono — that would've been a really good thing, but we just never got 'round to doing that for some reason. But yeah, I get offered a lot of work. And I've been very lucky to be able to pick and choose what I do."

Jon Shard

Marr attacks: 'All this was, and is, like a science to me.'

Marr just received NME's coveted Godlike Genius Award for 2013. And he's still the same whip-thin, steely-eyed, dry-witted, mop-topped Mancunian he was when he teamed up with melancholy warbler Morrissey all those years ago for such definitive Smiths anthems as "How Soon Is Now, "Meat Is Murder" and "Panic," which was particularly memorable for its "Hang the DJ / Hang the DJ" chorus.

And now he's finally stepping into the spotlight — and up to the mic — with a brand-new solo set, *The Messenger*. The debut album finds him putting his signature Fender Jaguar (plus his favorite Gibson and Rickenbacker) through its elastic paces on the tambourine-shaking "The Right Thing Right," a squealing "I Want the Heartbeat," the spider-walking title track, and the acoustic-chimed childhood reflection "New Town Velocity."

For the past several years, Marr has been residing in Portland, where he actually did a stern-faced cameo on *Portlandia* at the request of the show's creators. But in talking about the new album, he can't help reflecting on the punk and new wave singles he heard as a kid, back when the guitar was becoming not only his first toy, but an eventual lifelong obsession. While other kids were kicking the soccer ball around, he was inside, growing fascinated, he says, "with the way certain records sounded, how chord changes made you behave, and how sounds came together. All this was, and is, like a science to me — or *better*, because it had some emotional quality, and it's also, I believe, art as well as entertainment."

For *The Messenger*, the artist regressed himself to his teen years, back when he was listening to early Television and Psychedelic Furs albums. "So what I did was, I grabbed an attitude in my mind, which was not at all difficult to do," he says of the songwriting process. "And I just remembered the sort of vibe of a band I wanted to be in when I was 16, 17 — that's the best way of putting it. And at this point in my life, I'm not particularly interested in making stuff that you can kick back to at 2:30 in the morning with a bottle of red wine. The mission I'm on right now is to make records that make people feel good in the daytime for four minutes."

Read between the lines on this axeman's résumé, and a single defining trait jumps out: Humility. Or as he puts it, "I don't think that there's anything to be gained from having your name any bigger. If somebody has their name in larger type or is louder coming through the P.A. than me, I don't care, you know? I'm OK with being a team player."

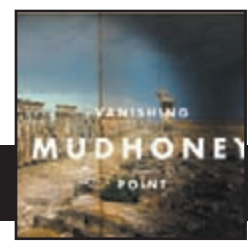
— scene@csindy.com

SoundAdvice

Justin Timberlake
The 20/20 Experience
RCA Records

File next to: Jay-Z & Kanye West, Harry Connick Jr.

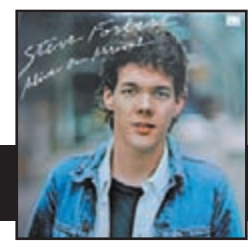
It's not just the '40s big-band accoutrements that made Justin Timberlake's return to music appealing. It was also the long compositions, with angular and unexpected time signatures, he showcased on late-night TV appearances. That particular Justin was like Zappa filtering Benny Goodman, or a soundtrack to *Gravity's Rainbow*. Yet Timberlake's first album in seven years took immediate slings and arrows from the cognoscenti, many for good reason. Yes, the lyrics are superficial, though one would not turn to Timberlake for clues on solving world hunger. Yes, Jay-Z's contribution to this album was particularly lackluster. But there's still a lot here to like. Producer Timbaland brings unique sounds that mash Beefheart and Fela, and Timberlake's sense of humor is evident on "Spaceship Coupe" and "Strawberry Bubblegum." *The 20/20 Experience* is a guilty pleasure, maybe, but a pleasure nonetheless. ***— Loring Wirbel***



Mudhoney
Vanishing Point
Sub Pop Records

File next to: The Stooges, MC5

Mudhoney was one of the grungiest, grimiest bands of the grunge era — never overly concerned with making their material viable for pop radio — so it's somewhat surprising that they have been one of its longest-surviving bands, putting out records with regularity for nearly 25 years. Then again, that could be the very secret of their longevity, because their latest album, *Vanishing Point*, has the vitality and swagger of bands half their age. Punchy, muscular drums and fuzzed-out noise-blues guitar solos lash out with utter abandon, all led by singer Mark Arm's strangulated wail and snide, humorous lyrics. Highlights include the pounding piano-and-handclap-led singalong "I Like It Small," the punk blast-off "Chardonnay," and the cosmically sinister "In This Rubber Tomb." *Vanishing Point* is dirty, exuberant garage punk, and you'd have to be no fun at all to not appreciate it. ***— Collin Estes***



Steve Forbert
Alive on Arrival / Jackrabbit Slim
Blue Corn Records

File next to: Jackson Browne, James Taylor

When Steve Forbert made his 1978 debut with *Alive on Arrival*, singer-songwriters were falling out of fashion. The following year, Forbert had his only Top 40 hit with "Romeo's Tune," the opening cut from his second album *Jackrabbit Slim*. The reissue of these two well-crafted albums is full of overlooked gems, brought home by the Mississippi native's high sweet voice. *Alive on Arrival* is a kind of song cycle, addressing Forbert's life and move to New York in a wry, poetic fashion that rightfully earned Bob Dylan comparisons. *Jackrabbit Slim* is a more produced affair that contains some of Forbert's best songs ever, including "I'm In Love With You," "January 23-30, 1978" and the aforementioned "Romeo's Tune." A live version also shows up among the 12 making this new package required listening for Forbert fans. ***— L. Kent Wolgamott***

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GRINDSCAPE, MIDGARD, ENDUALITY
Sat, Apr. 13th - 7:00pm
IN CHASE FOR THE SKY
THE FULFILLMENT, A MINUTE TOO LATE, DIVE THEORY, CULL THE HERD
Sun, Apr. 14th - 7:00pm
FEAR FACTORY
MALAKAI, DESPISE THE SUN, ANOTHER SHADE OF HATE
Wed, Apr. 17th - 7:00pm
PRESENTED BY 103.9 RXP AND INDEPENDENT RECORDS
FAMILY OF THE YEAR, THE MOGWLI'S
FLOATY RAFT
Thu, Apr. 18th - 7:00pm
PRESENTED BY 103.9 RXP AND 94.3 KILO
FILTER
RED LINE CHEMISTRY, GIRL ON FIRE
Fri, Apr. 19th - 7:30pm
KALEB MIZE MEMORIAL BENEFIT
SLEEPSWITHBEARS
VITAL MALICE, NUK-L-HED, OMNYN
Sat, Apr. 20th - 7:00pm
VOODOO GLOW SKULLS, LEFT ALONE
HUSSY (FEAT. MEMBERS OF THE NOBODYS, DRAG THE RIVER, & BUCK O NINE). MURDER HAT
Mon, Apr. 22nd - 7:00pm
BROADWAY CALLS
TAKE IT TO 88, SLEEPING WEATHER
Thu, Apr. 25th - 7:00pm
TILL WE RISE
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Sun, Apr. 28th - 7:00pm
FACE TO FACE
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MAY 13 - MUSHROOMHEAD
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MAY 21 - CAPITAL CITIES
MAY 24 - REHAB
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MAY 27 - ESCAPE THE FATE
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PlayingAround

LIVE MUSIC: WEDNESDAY, APRIL 10, THROUGH TUESDAY, APRIL 16

Wednesday 04/10

Back East, *Andy Clifton (rock/pop),* 8 p.m.
Black Sheep, *The Parlotones, Claymore Disco, Dinner & the Suit (rock/pop),* 7 p.m., $12.
Club Q, *Open Mic Night (open mic),* 10 p.m.
Downtown Bar, *Andrew Wynne (rock/pop),* 9 p.m.
Frankie's, *Open Mic (open mic),* 8:30 p.m.
Front Range Barbeque, *Colorado College Bluegrass Ensemble (bluegrass),* 8 p.m.
Fujiyama, *Trusedell Trio feat. Victoria Bruyette (jazz),* 6:30 p.m.
Margarita at PineCreek, *Crystal and the Curious (jazz),* 7 p.m.
Meadow Muffins, *Brian Parton (Americana),* 7 p.m.
MoodSwings, *Acoustic Open Mic Night (open mic),* 8 p.m., $5, free for jammers.
Park East, *The Martini Shot Unplugged (acoustic),* 7 p.m.
Rico's, *Barbara Ernst (jazz),* 7 p.m.
SouthSide Johnny's, *Rawbert & I (rock/pop),* 8 p.m.
Thirsty Parrot, *Colorado Springs Contemporary Jazz Big Band (jazz),* 6 p.m.
Zodiac, *'80s Nite with DJ Monster Mike (dance),* 9 p.m.

Thursday 04/11

Adam's, *Jim Enquist (acoustic),* 6:30 p.m.
Ancient Mariner, *Stolen Idol Productions presents Open Mic (open mic),* 8 p.m.
Benny's, *Open Mic with the Jerry Roskin Band (open mic),* 9 p.m.
Black Sheep, *17 Ents., feat. Ovadoze, B.B.S., Yoshi the Great, Fallible (hip-hop),* 8 p.m., $5.
Blue Moose Tavern, *Open Mic with Chauncy Crandall (open mic),* 8 p.m.
Cowboys, *Chris Cagle (country),* 8 p.m.
Crystola Roadhouse, *Flying W Wranglers (country),* 8 p.m.
Jack Quinn's, *Pub Sing-along with Brian Clancy (world),* 7:30 p.m.
Margarita at PineCreek, *Jazz Quartet (jazz),* 6:30 p.m.
Meadow Muffins, *Opposition Force (dance),* 8 p.m.
Motif, *Jim Adam and John Stilwagen (jazz),* 7:15 p.m.
Park East, *Sarah Wood & Theo DeCenzo (acoustic),* 7 p.m.
Rico's, *Susan Rissman and Tribe (jazz),* 7 p.m.
Solar Roast Coffee, *Andrew Wynne (rock/pop),* 4 p.m.
Spice Island Grill, *Reggae Nights (world),* 8 p.m.
Triple Nickel, *Nickels and Dimes, Robbie D, Iggy Igloo (rock/pop),* 9 p.m.

Friday 04/12

2 South, *Susan Rissman and John Wise (acoustic),* 8 p.m.
Adam's, *Jim Enquist (acoustic),* 9 a.m.
Ancient Mariner, *New Speedway Boogie (rock/pop),* 9 p.m.
Back East, *Arch Hooks (R&B),* 8:30 p.m.
Benny's, *Neighborhood Bully (rock/pop),* 9 p.m.
Black Forest Community Center, *Evie Ladin and Keith Terry (indie),* 7 p.m., $4-$7.
Black Sheep, *Duckling Fantasy, Grindscape, Midgard (metal),* 7:30 p.m., $5-$7.
Blue Moose Tavern, *Chaz DePaolo (blues),* 8 p.m.
Bricks, *VCR Trio (rock/pop),* 9 p.m.
Broadmoor Academy of Music, *Friday Jazz Jam Session (jazz),* 7 p.m.
The Coffee Exchange, *Tricia Parish (country),* 6 p.m.
Crystola Roadhouse, *Jimmy Thackery & the Drivers (blues),* 8 p.m., $18-$38.
Cucuru, *Eric Elder (bluegrass),* 8 p.m.
Daily Grind Café, *Andrew Wynne (rock/pop),* 7 p.m.
Frankie's Too!, *Rhonda Lee & The Renegades (rock/pop),* 9 p.m.
Fujiyama, *Trusedell Trio feat. Krista Joyce (jazz),* 6:30 p.m.
Jack Quinn's, *DJ Rob G (dance),* 8 p.m.
Johnny's Navajo Hogan, *Martini Shot (rock/pop),* 9 p.m.
Kasey's, *Friday Nights with DJ Panther (R&B),* 9 p.m.
Lofty's, *The Classical, Harriett Landrum (indie),* 7 p.m.
Margarita at PineCreek, *Acme Bluegrass Band (bluegrass),* 6:30 p.m.
Meadow Muffins, *Mystic 7 (rock/pop),* 9 p.m.
MoodSwings, *Shane Goothof (acoustic),* 8 p.m., $5.
Motif, *Rico Southee Trio (jazz),* 7:45 p.m.
The Perk Downtown, *BRAS Open Stage (acoustic),* 8 p.m., $4-$7.
Rawkus, *Shawn Mitiska, Pwnage Method, DJ Donny (dance),* 9 p.m.
Rico's, *The Mitguards (folk),* 7:30 p.m.
Sabi, *Brian Parton (rock/pop),* 8 p.m.
Sonterra, *John Stone (acoustic),* 7 p.m.
SouthSide Johnny's, *6035 (rock/pop),* 8 p.m.
Stargazers, *Chuck Limbrick Love & Life CD Release (R&B),* 6 p.m., $15.
Townhouse, *Mike Nelson (blues),* 9 p.m.
Triple Nickel, *Night of the Living Shred, Rhogog, Saus (rock/pop),* 9 p.m.
Union Station, *China Whyte (rock/pop),* 8 p.m.
V Bar, *DJ Gravity (dance),* 9 p.m.
Wooglin's, *Second Friday at Wooglins (acoustic),* 7 p.m.
Wyatt's, *TJ and the Hot Chick (acoustic),* 8:30 p.m.
Zodiac, *Ghost Radio, Melting Temple, Sound Studies (rock/pop),* 9 p.m., $5.

Saturday 04/13

Ancient Mariner, *Animus Invidious & Flodignatic (dance),* 7:45 p.m.
Back East, *Arch Hooks (R&B),* 8:30 p.m.
Benny's, *The Justice League (blues),* 9 p.m.
Black Sheep, *In Chase for the Sky, The Fulfillment, A Minute Too Late (rock/pop),* 7 p.m., $5-$7.
Blue Moose Tavern, *Radio London (rock/pop),* 8 p.m.
Carey-On Saloon, *G. Duncan & Moonlighters (country),* 9 p.m.
Country Bar, *Exit West (country),* 8 p.m.
Crystola Roadhouse, *Big Bill Morganfield (blues),* 8 p.m., $18-$38.
Cucuru, *BJ Estares (blues),* 8 p.m.
Frankie's, *Jake Loggins (blues),* 8 p.m.
Frankie's Too!, *Rhonda Lee & The Renegades (rock/pop),* 9 p.m.
Front Range Barbeque, *Charlie Par (folk),* 8 p.m.
Jack Quinn's, *Mutiny (rock/pop),* 9 p.m.
Johnny's Navajo Hogan, *Goya (rock/pop),* 9 p.m.
Lounge in the Village, *Slightly Bent (rock/pop),* 8 p.m.
Meadow Muffins, *Lucky Few (dance),* 9 p.m.
MoodSwings, *Blue Fruit Snack (acoustic),* 8 p.m., $5.
Motif, *Julie Bradley and Friends (jazz),* 7:45 p.m.
Pikes Peak Brewing Co., *Brian Parton (rock/pop),* 7 p.m.
Rawkus, *From Slaves to Kings, Scarlet Canary (rock/pop),* 8 p.m.
Rico's, *Bill Snyder and Jim Adam (blues),* 7:30 p.m.
The Sky Box Lounge, *The Reid Holmes Invitational "Live Music Jam" (open mic),* 8 p.m.
Sonterra, *John Stone (acoustic),* 7 p.m.
SouthSide Johnny's, *6035 (rock/pop),* 8 p.m.
Sunshine Studios, *The Awakening (rock/pop),* 6 p.m., $5.
Townhouse, *Jesse Cotton Stone (blues),* 9 p.m.
Triple Nickel, *Hussy, The War Parts, Blighter, Mark Wilkins (rock/pop),* 9 p.m., $5.
Union Station, *Uneducated Scholars, IBE Hustles, Wisdom, The FAMM (hip-hop),* 8 p.m.
Ute Inn, *Cari Dell Trio (blues),* 8 p.m.
V Bar, *DJ Gravity (dance),* 9 p.m.

Sunday 04/14

Ancient Mariner, *The Storys (folk),* 6:30 p.m.

VENUE DIRECTORY

2 South Wine Bar, 2 S. 25th St., 351-2806
Adam's Mountain Café, 934 Manitou Ave., #102, Manitou Springs, 685-1430
Ancient Mariner, 962 Manitou Ave., Manitou Springs, 685-5503
Back East Bar & Grill, 9475 Briar Village Point, 264-6161
Benny's Restaurant & Lounge, 517 W. Colorado Ave., 634-9309
Black Forest Community Center, 12530 Black Forest Road, 528-6119
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The Blue Moose Tavern, 10530 Ute Pass Ave., Green Mountain Falls, 418-3384
Bricks Sports Bar & Grill, 1840 N. Academy Blvd., 638-2022
Broadmoor Academy of Music, 1223 Lake Plaza Drive, Suite C, 576-3979
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Club Q, 3430 N. Academy Blvd., 570-1429
The Coffee Exchange, 526 S. Tejon St., 635-0277
Country Bar, 606 S. Santa Fe Ave., Fountain, 382-5361
Cowboys, 25 N. Tejon St., 596-1212
Crystola Roadhouse, 20918 U.S. Hwy. 24, Woodland Park, 687-7879
Cucuru Gallery Café, 2332 W. Colorado Ave., 520-9900
The Daily Grind Café, 209 S. Union Ave., Pueblo, 719/561-8567
The Downtown Bar, 103 Central Plaza, Pueblo, 719/544-1499
Frankie's Bar & Grill, 945 N. Powers Blvd., 574-4881
Frankie's Too!, 7376 McLaughlin Road, Falcon, 495-8707
Front Range Barbeque, 2330 W. Colorado Ave., 632-2596
Fujiyama, 22 S. Tejon St., Suite A, 630-1167
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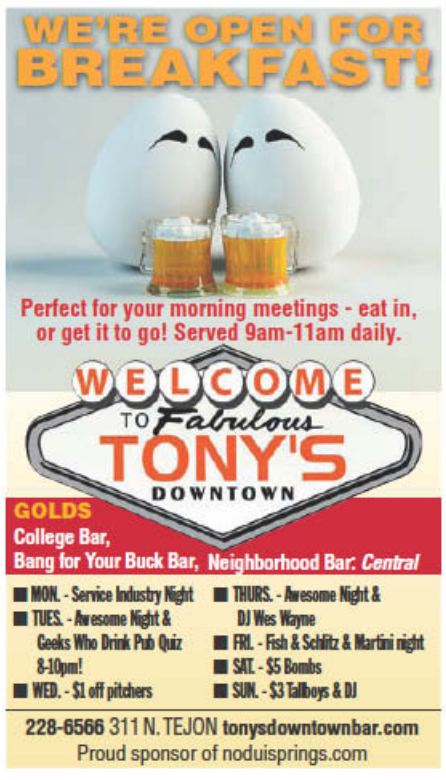
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Reverb will be back next week.

Black Sheep, *Fear Factory, Malakai, Despise the Sun, Another Shade of Hate (metal),* 7 p.m., $18-$20.
Jack Quinn's, *Traditional Irish Session (world),* 3 p.m.
The Loft, *Awna Teixeira, The Hopeful Heroines (folk),* 7 p.m.
Retired Enlisted Association, *Sunday Blues Jam with Tracy Quinn Band (blues),* 3 p.m.
Smiley's, *Blue Frog (blues),* 11 a.m.
Stargazers, *Hapa (acoustic),* 6 p.m., $20-$25.
Zodiac, *The Confluence, Woje, Tejon St. Corner Preachers, Alex Axhondo (rock/pop),* 8 p.m., $3.

Monday 04/15

Sunshine Studios, *Izzy Dunfore, Ellmatic P-Tro, The Beatnicks (hip-hop),* 6:30 p.m., $10.
Zodiac, *Open Mic hosted by Andrea Stone (open mic),* 7 p.m.

Tuesday 04/16

Adam's, *Wayne Hammerstadt (acoustic),* 6 p.m.
Benny's, *Sweet T's Rude Blues Jam (blues),* 7 p.m.
Townhouse, *Jam Night, with Tim Costello (acoustic),* 8 p.m.
Zodiac, *Hypofixx, Toothgnasher, Wire Tap (rock/pop),* 9 p.m., $5.

Los Amigos Invisibles hits Denver's Bluebird Theater April 17.

BigGigs

Bad Religion, Fillmore Auditorium, Denver, April 10 • **The Doobie Brothers**, Pikes Peak Center, April 10 • **Moses Jones**, Stargazers Theatre and Event Center, April 10 • **The Parlotones**, Black Sheep, April 10 • **Chris Cagle**, Cowboys, April 11 • **Bullet for My Valentine**, Fillmore Auditorium, Denver, April 12 • **Jimmy Thackery & the Drivers**, Crystola Roadhouse, Woodland Park, April 12 • **Big Bill Morganfield**, Crystola Roadhouse, Woodland Park, April 13 • **Peter Yarrow**, Daniels Hall at Swallow Hill, Denver, April 13 • **Fear Factory**, Black Sheep, April 14 • **Hapa**, Stargazers Theatre and Event Center, April 14 • **Family of the Year**, Black Sheep, April 17 • **Los Amigos Invisibles,** Bluebird Theater, Denver, April 17 • **Filter**, Black Sheep, April 18 • **Colin Hay**, Trilakes Center for the Arts, Palmer Lake, April 20 • **The Motet, Ozomatli**, Fillmore Auditorium, Denver, April 20 • **Voodoo Glow Skulls**, Black Sheep, April 20 • **Moreland & Arbuckle**, Crystola Roadhouse, Woodland Park, April 27 • **Whiskey Fingers**, Stargazers Theatre and Event Center, May 3 • **Chris Duarte Group**, Crystola Roadhouse, Woodland Park, May 4 • **John Prine**, Pikes Peak Center, May 4 • **Paramore**, Fillmore Auditorium, Denver, May 7 • **Armin Van Buuren**, Fillmore Auditorium, Denver, May 8 • **Stu Hamm**, Stargazers Theatre and Event Center, May 11 • **Fabolous, Pusha T**, Ogden Theatre, Denver, May 14 • **Imagine Dragons**, Red Rocks Amphitheatre, Morrison, May 16 • **Miranda Lambert, Dierks Bentley**, Fiddler's Green Amphitheatre, Englewood, May 18 • **Limp Bizkit**, Fillmore Auditorium, Denver, May 18 • **Dropkick Murphys**, Fillmore Auditorium, Denver, May 29 • **Buddy Whittington with the Atomic Fireballs**, Crystola Roadhouse, Woodland Park, May 31 • **Bassnectar**, Red Rocks Amphitheatre, Morrison, May 31-June 1 • **Fleetwood Mac**, Pepsi Center, Denver, June 1 • **Gina Sicilia**, Venue 515, Manitou Springs, June 1 • **Taylor Swift**, Pepsi Center, Denver, June 2 • **The xx**, Fillmore Auditorium, Denver, June 3 • **Sting**, Red Rocks Amphitheatre, Morrison, June 5 • **Darius Rucker, with Rodney Atkins**, Red Rocks Amphitheatre, Morrison, June 6 • **Umphrey's McGee, Dr. Dog**, Red Rocks Amphitheatre, Morrison, June 7 • **Celtic Woman**, Red Rocks Amphitheatre, Morrison, June 9 • **Logic, with Skizzy Mars**, Summit Music Hall, Denver, June 11 • **Pitbull/Ke$ha**, Fiddler's Green Amphitheatre, Englewood, June 11 • **DeVotchKa, with the Colorado Symphony, Amanda Palmer**, Red Rocks Amphitheatre, Morrison, June 14 • **Fitz & The Tantrums**, Gothic Theatre, Englewood, June 14 • **Datsik**, Ogden Theatre, Denver, June 14-15 • **Tim McGraw**, Fiddler's Green Amphitheatre, Englewood, June 15 • **Rob Zombie, Five Finger Death Punch, Mastodon**, Fiddler's Green Amphitheatre, Englewood, July 7 • **Brandi Carlile, Blind Pilot**, Red Rocks Amphitheatre, Morrison, July 13 •

Pub, 21 S. Tejon St., 385-0766
Johnny's Navajo Hogan, 2817 N. Nevada Ave., 344-9593
Kasey's Bar & Grill, 1919 E. Boulder St., 635-8128
The Loft, 2506 W. Colorado Ave., 445-9278
Lofty's, 287 E. Fountain Blvd., #100, 520-0024
Lounge in the Village, 3440 W. Carefree Circle, 550-9721
Margarita at PineCreek, 7350 Pine Creek Road, 598-8667
Meadow Muffins, 2432 W. Colorado Ave., 633-0583
MoodSwings Acoustic Lounge, 696 N. Circle Drive, 201-2592
Motif, 2432 Cucharras St., 635-5635
Park East Restaurant, 720 Goodnight Ave., Pueblo, 719/565-6655
The Perk Downtown, 14 S. Tejon St., 635-1600
Pikes Peak Brewing Co., 1756 Lake Woodmoor Drive, 208-4098
Rawkus, 3506 N. Academy Blvd., 596-0000
Retired Enlisted Association, 834 Emory Circle, 596-0927
Rico's Café and Wine Bar, 322½ N. Tejon St., 578-5549
Sabi, 330 N. Institute St., 471-4237
The Sky Box Lounge, 2102 E. Bijou St., 634-4815
Smiley's Bakery and Café, 323 N. Tejon St., 328-9447
Solar Roast Coffee, 226 N. Main St., Pueblo, 719/544-2008
Sonterra Innovative Southwest Grill, 28B S. Tejon St., 471-9222
SouthSide Johnny's, 528 S. Tejon St., 444-8487
Spice Island Grill, 10 N. Sierra Madre St., 473-8280
Stargazers Theatre and Event Center, 10 S. Parkside Drive, 476-2200
Sunshine Studios, 3970 Clearview Frontage Road, 392-8921
Thirsty Parrot, 32 S. Tejon St., 884-1094
Townhouse Lounge, 907 Manitou Ave., Manitou Springs, 685-1085
Triple Nickel Tavern, 26 S. Wahsatch Ave., 477-9555
Union Station, 2419 N. Union Blvd., 227-7168
Ute Inn, 204 W. Midland Ave., Woodland Park, 687-1465
V Bar, 19 E. Kiowa St., 635-9599
Wooglin's Deli & Café, 823 N. Tejon St., 578-9443
Wyatt's Pub & Grill, 806 Village Center Drive, 598-4100
Zodiac, 230 Pueblo Ave. 632-5059

— by Wednesday at noon for the following week's paper. If we don't receive confirmation of ongoing events on a monthly basis, they won't run. Send to: livemusic@csindy.com.

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Graham Baird,
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Sunday Services of Worship

Nevada at Bijou

8:20 & 9:45 a.m.
Sanctuary, Blended Style with Choir

9:45 a.m.
Fellowship Hall, Contemporary

11:10 a.m.
Sanctuary, Contemporary

5:00 p.m.
Sanctuary, Contemplative

Nursery at All Services

884-6100

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April 14;
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Listings

PICK Indicates our recommendations for this week.

YOUR GUIDE TO EVENTS IN THE PIKES PEAK REGION

PICK ***Les Misérables,*** a two-hour performance of the classic by the largest cast the school's theater program has ever had. Through April 13. $6-$13. Pine Creek High School, 10750 Thunder Mountain Ave., 234-2600.

ArtEvents

Arts in Business and Education Luncheon, an event to honor locals who have done well to promote and preserve the arts in the community, with emcee Jan Martin of City Council, performances by local artists and musicians and more. Reservations required. Wed., April 10, 11:30 a.m. $35. Antlers Hilton, 4 S. Cascade Ave., 238-5065, antlers.com.

Batwings & Barbicide, a collective art show with works from EAKS, IKON, REFIC, VOGE and VOMET. Opening reception Sat., April 13, 7 p.m. Aguilar Barber & Styling, 4695 Centennial Blvd., 531-0505, aguilarbarberstyling.com.

Chalk Paint Techniques, a hands-on workshop including all of the skills and supplies needed for furniture decoration using chalk paint. Pre-registration recommended. Sat., April 13, 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Shades of Amber, 125 Second St., Monument, 265-9921, shadesofamber.net.

New Art Classes, a selection of new courses in coffee painting, photo jewelry and more, running now through summer. E-mail for details. Through Aug. 31. Verve, 2513½ W. Colorado Ave., 351-7030, verveartmarket@gmail.com, facebook.com/verveartmarket.

Public Free Day, free general admittance to the galleries and docent tours. Third Tuesday of every month, 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center, 30 W. Dale St., 634-5581, csfineartscenter.org.

Raku Class, an intro to this ceramic art form with instructor Kuky Harrington. Call for class times and more info. Mon., April 15. Cup and Bowl Gallery, 116 Midway Ave., Pueblo, 719/404-3469, cupandbowl.org.

Wine Tasting and Artist Talk, enjoy drinks, hors d'oeuvres and discussion with featured artist Michael Dowling. Purchase tickets in advance online. Thurs., April 11, 6-8 p.m. $10. G44 Gallery, 1785 S. Eighth St., Suite A, 720/951-0573, eventbrite.com/event/5954527151.

ArtExhibits

ARTSpace Gallery, Hillside Community Center, 925 S. Institute St., 385-7900. First Glance, an exhibition of abstract paintings. Through April 30.

Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center, 30 W. Dale St., 634-5581, csfineartscenter.org. *Families*, a multidisciplinary project featuring two exhibits, *A Family Affair: Selections from the Progressive Art Collection*, a multimedia show featuring numerous angles on the idea of family from contemporary and emerging artists and *Mother: Photography by Carol S. Dass*, a solo show by this local photographer seeing her mother through new eyes. Through May 19.

Fountain Valley School, 6155 Fountain Valley School Road, 391-5257, fvs.edu. Tri-Peaks League Student Art Exhibit, a selection of works from artists at local high schools, including Fountain Valley, St. Mary's, Manitou Springs, Salida, Buena Vista, Florence and James Irwin. April 12-20. Opening reception Fri., April 12, 4-6 p.m.

Gallery 113, 113 N. Tejon St., gallery-113.com. *New Artists*, an exhibition of watercolors, paintings and photographs from Kathy Murray, Shelley Olivier and Eric Murphy, respectively. Through April 30.

Hayden Hays Broadmoor Galleries, 1 Lake Circle, 577-5744, haydenhaysgallery.com. All Gallery Bronze Show, more than 100 pieces of all sizes and genres from 17 different artists. April 11 to May 1. Opening reception Thurs., Apr. 11, 4:30-8:30 p.m.

J's Gameroom & Café, 3047 Jet Wing Drive, 392-2714, jsgameroom.com. *Bold and Captivating*, an exhibition from the Colorado Springs Creative Photography Group. Through April 30.

The London Group, 731 N. Weber St., 277-0700. *Art Aloud*, a selection of works by local artists inspired by the written and spoken word, in honor of National Poetry Month. Through April 26. Closing reception Fri., Apr. 26, 4-7 p.m.

Mediterranean Cafe, 118 E. Kiowa St., 633-0115, medcafe-co.com. *Poems and Arts*, a celebration of National Poetry Month featuring exhibited haiku, haiga and origami cranes. Through April 30.

Your FOX21 five-day forecast

WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
32/20	52/31	54/32	62/38	60/36

PICK **Sabi,** 330 N. Institute St., 344-4191, facebook.com. *Korri Myers and Molly Bailey*, an exhibition of works by these two emerging local painters. Opening reception features food, drink, music by Brian Parton and a spoken word performance by Sara Griffin. April 12 to May 10. Opening reception Fri., April 12, 7-9 p.m.

Tri-Lakes Center for the Arts, 304 Hwy. 105, Palmer Lake, 481-0475, trilakesarts.org. *Springtime in the Rockies*, a collection of work from the Pikes Peak Pastel Society. Also on display: *Weaving Their Way to Hope*, featuring crafts from Kurdish women who are learning to weave from a Monument organization. Through April 13.

Auditions&Entries

20th Annual Hummingbird Festival seeks nature-themed arts and crafts vendors for its May celebration in North Cheyenne Cañon. Deadline for vendors is April 26. 385-6086.

ArtoCade seeks art cars for a new weekend event happening in Trinidad in September. Details available online, along with stipend information (some are eligible) and an application. artcarfun@hotmail.com, historictrinidad.com/artocade.html.

Blue Spruce Gallery seeks a jeweler to join the gallery. Interested artists should submit three pieces for jurying no later than April 18. Blue Spruce Gallery, 205 W. Main St., Florence, 719/784-1339, bluespruceart.com.

Business of Art Center seeks entries for its juried photography exhibition *Colorado in Focus*. Work must be delivered ready to hang. Deadline for entries is April 14. $10 for first piece, $5 for each additional. Business of Art Center, 513 Manitou Ave., Manitou Springs, 685-1861, thebac.org.

Colorado Association for Recycling seeks entries for its seventh annual Recycling Poster Contest, open to students grades K-12. Prizes include gift cards and workshops from Project Learning Tree. Go online for more info and entry guidelines. Deadline: April 26. 583-4309, cafr.org/events/posterContest.php.

Commonwheel Artists Co-Op seeks "new and unique work." Applications are available online, or at the gallery. Commonwheel Artists Co-op, 102 Cañon Ave., Manitou Springs, 685-1008, commonwheel.com.

Millibo Art Theatre seeks acrobats, jugglers, stilt walkers, unicyclists, clowns and others to audition for its production *The Incredible Circus Millibo*. Auditions are by appointment only during the week of April 13-20. Millibo Art Theatre, 1367 Pecan St., 465-6321, themat.org.

Pueblo Performing Arts Guild seeks visual artists and performers of all types to come audition during the listed time period. Sat., April 20, noon to 4 p.m. Historic Arkansas Riverwalk of Pueblo, 719/242-6652, pueblopag.org.

Rampart Rock'N Jazz seeks sopranos, tenors and altos to join a four-to-eight-part R&B harmony group. 313-6131, rampartrocknjazz.com.

Sangre de Cristo Arts Center seeks artists to participate in its annual holiday sale entitled *Own Your Own*. Sangre de Cristo Arts Center, 210 N. Santa Fe Ave., Pueblo, 719/295-7200, sdcarts.org/upcomingexhibits.html.

Smokebrush Foundation seeks bicycle-themed artwork for its ninth annual Roll Bike Art Festival in August. This year's juried theme is "nine million bicycles." Deadline for entries is June 24. Marmalade at Smokebrush, 219 W. Colorado Ave., #210, 444-1012, smokebrush.org.

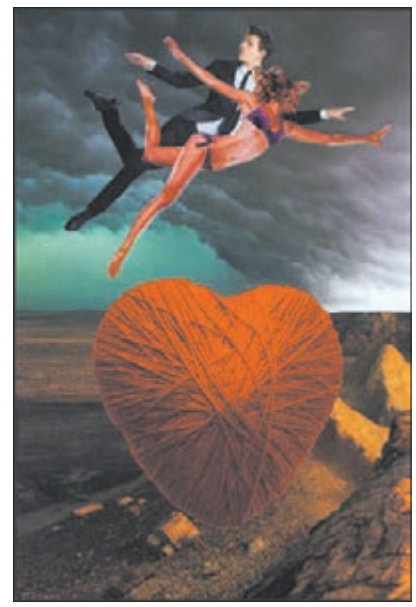
Verve Art Market & Cafe seeks vendors for its indoor summer art market, specifically artisan wares, healing arts, and vintage items. Low rates; tables and wall space provided. E-mail for details. Verve, 2513½ W. Colorado Ave., 351-7030, facebook.com/verveartmarket.

Westside Community Center seeks submissions for the annual show *Finding Our Voices*. Deadline for visual art is April 10. Westside Community Center, 1628 W. Bijou St., 460-7836, findingourvoicescs.org.

Wrong Way Press seeks illustrated stories and fables à la Kafka, Thurber or the Brothers Grimm for publication. Submission deadline: May 1; see website for guidelines. 832/816-6815, wrongwaypress.com.

Clubs&Organizations

American Association of University Women, the monthly meeting of AAUW will feature Dave Gardner, producer of the film *GrowthBusters*, speaking on economics and population growth with regard to Colorado's water supply. Lunch included; RSVP by April 9. Sat., April 13, 11 a.m. $25. The Club at Flying Horse, 1880 Weiskopf Point, 590-7237.



PICK **Modbo,** 17C E. Bijou St., 633-4240, themodbo.wordpress.com. *Work by Reba Lee Savageau and Tom Vail*, a collection of paintings and photo collage works by Savageau and Vail, respectively. Through April 26.

Colorado Springs Women's Express Network, a networking luncheon featuring a speaker designed to "inspire, motivate or empower women in business." RSVP no later than Tuesday prior to each event. Second Friday of every month, 11:15 a.m. $30. Garden of the Gods Club, 3320 Mesa Road, 338-0827, cswen.org.

Photography Classes and Group, offering photography and Photoshop classes at various locations around town. Visit 3peaksphoto.com/classes.html for a schedule. A photography group is also open to new members of all skill levels. Visit meetup.com/The-Colorado-Photography-Learning-Group for more information. 260-6637.

Pikes Peak Radio Amateurs Association, encourages interest in HAM radio, plans special events, participates in search and rescue efforts and more. Held at the Stetson Hills IHop, 5749 Stetson Hills Blvd. Second Wednesday of every month, 7-9 p.m. 282-8554, ppraa.org.

Sons of Norway meetings, with cultural presentations. Second Wednesday of every month, 7-9 p.m. Viking Hall, 1045 Ford St., 351-3554, sonsofnorwaycs.com.

Stammtisch — Colorado Springs, a German language conversation group held in Edelweiss' *Rathskeller*. Second Wednesday of every month, 6:30 p.m. Edelweiss, 34 E. Ramona Ave., 633-2220, facebook.com.

WomenHeart Support Group, a brown-bag-lunch gathering of women living with, or at risk for, heart disease. Second Wednesday of every month, 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Free. Penrose Hospital Main, 2222 N. Nevada Ave., 200-2645, womenheart.org.

Comedy&Improv

Slade Ham, April 11-13. $2-$10, two-item minimum. Loonee's Comedy Corner, 1305 N. Academy Blvd., 591-0707, loonees.com.

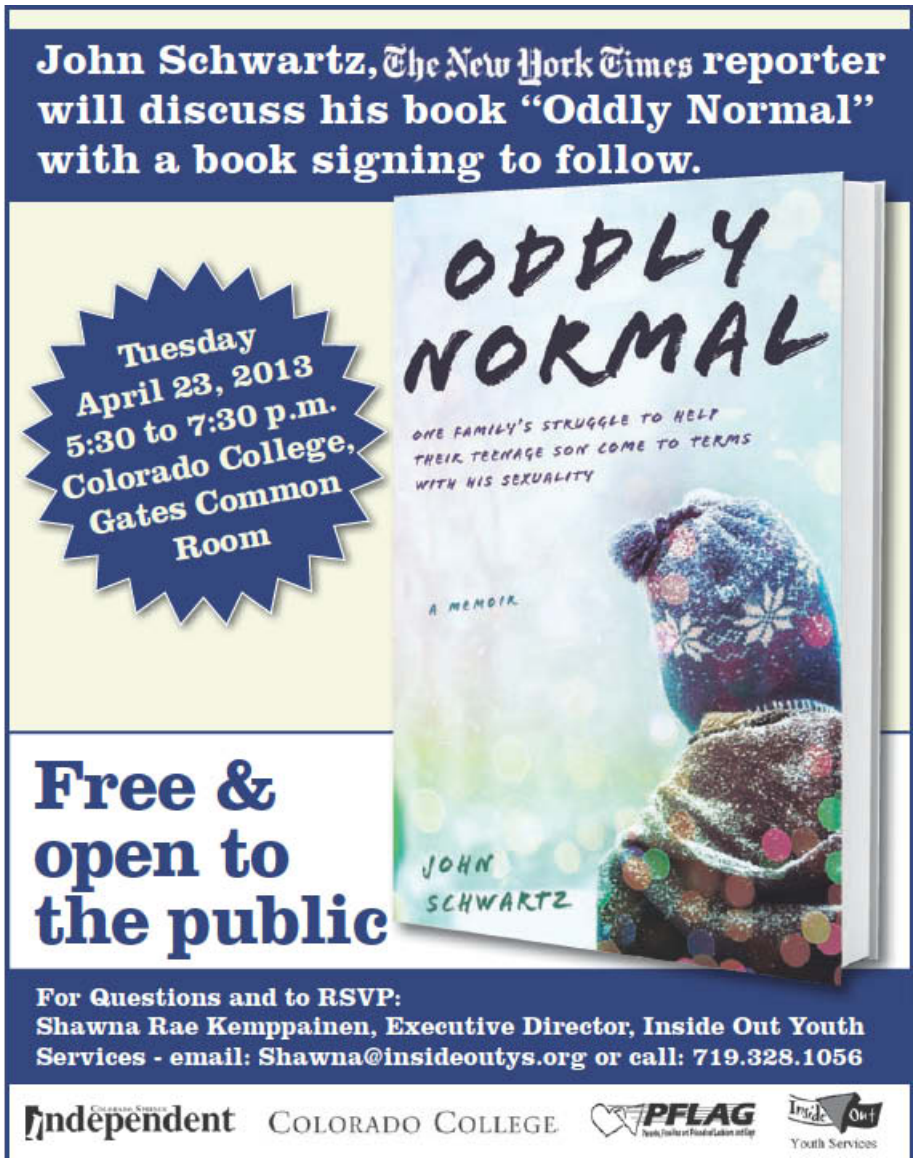
Stick Horses in Pants, family-friendly comedy. Second Friday of every month, 8 p.m. $8-$10. The Loft, 2506 W. Colorado Ave., 387-9911, facebook.com/thestickhorses.

"Whose ASL Is It?," a night of family-friendly improv comedy with deaf comedienne Trix Bruce, performed entirely in American Sign Language. Thurs., April 11, 6:30 p.m. and Fri., April 12, 6:30 p.m. $5-15. Colorado School for the Deaf and the Blind, 33 N. Institute St., 578-2100, csdb.org.

Concerts

1865: Hard Times Come Again No More, a chamber-choir concert directed by Rob Ryder. Sun., April 14, 3 p.m. Free. First Christian Church, 16 E. Platte Ave., 633-8888, firstchristiancos.org.

African Children's Choir, a song and dance performance from the internationally touring troupe of spiritual and gospel youth performers. Sun., April 14, 9 a.m. Faith Presbyterian Church, 1529 Circle Drive, 596-4895.


John Schwartz, The New York Times reporter will discuss his book "Oddly Normal" with a book signing to follow.
Tuesday
April 23, 2013
5:30 to 7:30 p.m.
Colorado College,
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Room
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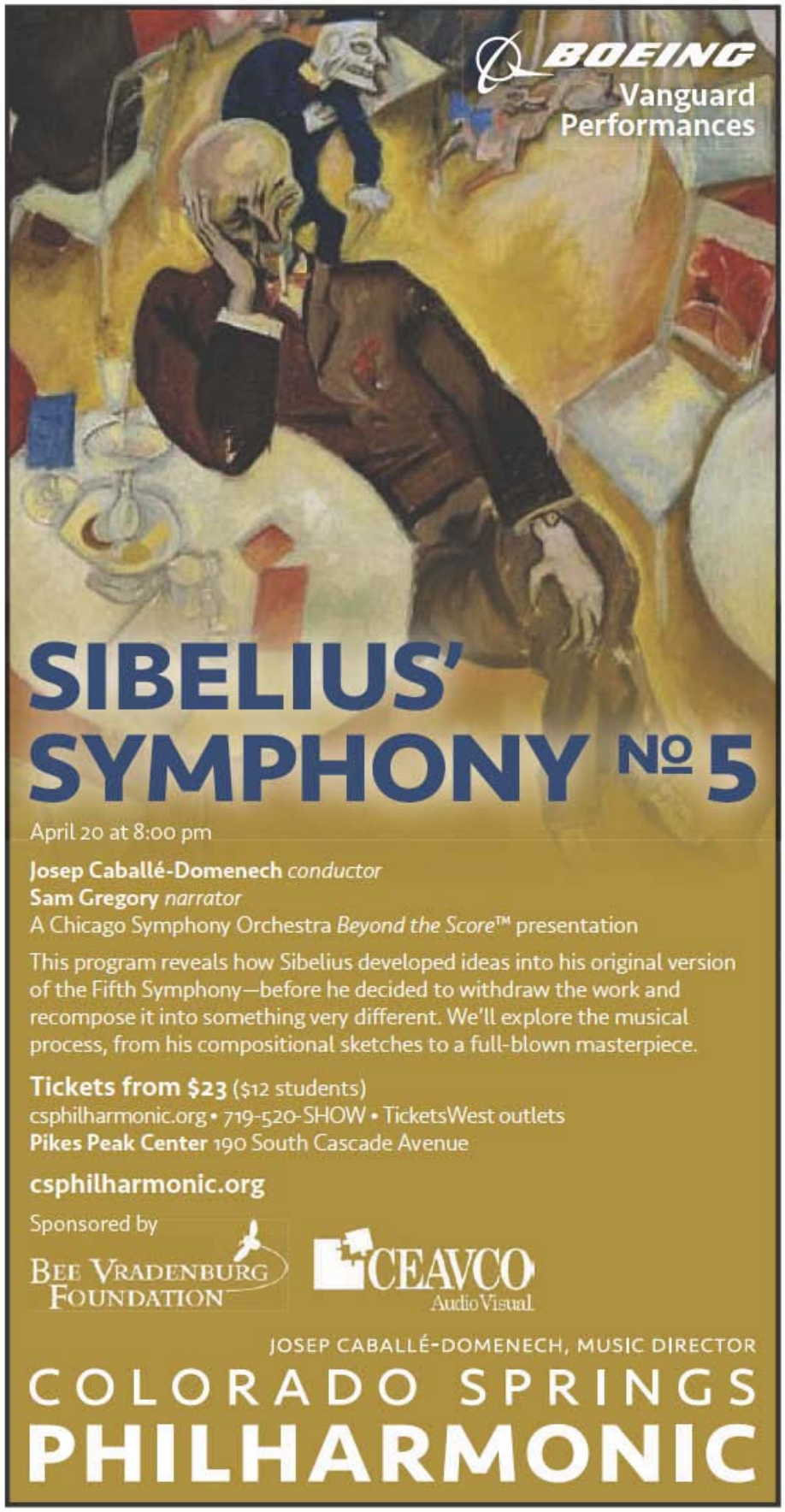
BOEING
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Performances
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SYMPHONY №5
April 20 at 8:00 pm
Josep Caballé-Domenech conductor
Sam Gregory narrator
A Chicago Symphony Orchestra Beyond the Score™ presentation
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"A Celebration of Music for Choir and Organ," a performance from the Chadron State College Concert Choir. Free. First United Methodist Church, 420 N. Nevada Ave., 471-8522, csc.edu/music.

Conservatory Soirée, featuring live jazz and blues from Conservatory faculty and alumni, plus tapas and happy hour drink specials. Fridays, 5:30-8:30 p.m.; through April 27. Red Martini, 25 N. Tejon St., 634-3522, csnightclubs.com.

Friends House Concerts, house concerts: Antje Duvekot, Sat., April 20, 7:30 p.m. ($25), Peter Mulvey, Sun., June 16, 7 p.m. ($25). Payment should be checks made out to Friends House Concerts. house-concerts.org.

Gardens of Spain, the Colorado Springs Philharmonic performs selections from Spanish composers with pianist Joaquin Achucarro, Josep Caballé-Domenech conducting. Sat., April 13, 8 p.m. and Sun., April 14, 2:30 p.m. $19-$59. Pikes Peak Center, 190 S. Cascade Ave., 520-7469, csphilharmonic.org.

Healing Sounds of the Cosmos, a blend of Tibetan, Tuvan and North European overtone singing by Matthew Kocel. Sat., April 13, 7:30 p.m. Unity Church in the Rockies, 1945 Mesa Road, 720/620-0267, cspringsunity.eventbrite.com.

Second Sunday Jazz Affair, featuring jazz standards and selections from the Great American Songbook, performed by the Three Woodwinds with special guests. Dancing, door prizes, dessert and cash bar also available. Sun., April 14, 1-4 p.m. $5-$10. Olympian Plaza Reception and Event Center, 975 S. Union Blvd., 685-9451, ppjass.org.

DancePerformances

Breaking Bread, the spring concert from Ormao Dance Company, with choreography from Mollie Wolf, Chung-Fu Chang, Jeff Bickford, and Tsui-Shuang Lai, the "hottest emerging modern dance choreographer in Taiwan." Fri., April 12, 7:30 p.m., Sat., April 13, 7:30 p.m. and Sun., April 14, 2 p.m. $15-30. Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center, 30 W. Dale St., 634-5583, ormaodance.org.

Film

Fourth Annual Night of Award-Winning Shorts, an evening of new film presented by the Rocky Mountain Women's Film Festival, including *Julian*, *Khanna*, *La Boda*, *Paperman* and *Little Horses*. A sellout event — advance ticket purchase recommended. Sat., April 13, 7:30 p.m. $25. Stargazers Theatre and Event Center, 10 S. Parkside Drive, 476-2200, rmwfilmfest.org/tickets.

Not Today, the story of a privileged American youth whose eyes are opened to the grim reality of human trafficking through his encounter with a young Untouchable girl in India. April 12-17, noon, 2:45, 5:35 and 8:25 p.m. $6.50. Tinseltown, 1545 E. Cheyenne Mountain Blvd., 800/326-3264 ext. 1106#, nottodaythemovie.com.

Food&Drink

Dinner with Our Chef in the Kitchen, a five-course dinner with wine prepared by Chef Larissa Warner. Reservations required. Thursdays, 7 p.m. $35 per person. Garden of the Gods Gourmet, 2528 W. Cucharras St., 471-2799, godsgourmet.net.

Discover Goodwill Annual Dinner, an awards celebration, fundraiser and dinner. RSVP by April 18 for the April 25, 6 p.m. event. $750. The Broadmoor, 1 Lake Ave., 634-7711, broadmoor.com.

Gluten-free/Paleo Cooking Class, a class dedicated to tortes and vegan cheesecakes sans corn, dairy, sugar, gluten, soy, egg and grain. Call to sign up. Sat., April 13, 2-5 p.m. $45. Colorado College Women's Club, 20 Mesa Road, 650-5124, bit.ly/15xZACH.

"In the Kitchen and on the Plate: Vegan Transition and Cooking Basics," a class with vegan-lifestyle coach JL Fields. Contact for more details. Wed., April 10, 6 p.m. $15. jlgoesvegan.com.

Olive-Oil Tasting Dinner, a four-course, family style dinner featuring six speciality olive oils. Sat., April 13, 6:30 p.m. $55. Margarita at PineCreek, 7350 Pine Creek Road, 598-8667, coloradoeats.com/margarita/home.html.

Wine, for the Health of It, a fundraiser for SET Family Medical Clinics featuring multiple wine tastings. Thurs., April 11, 5:30 p.m. $40. The Warehouse Restaurant and Gallery, 25 W. Cimarron St., 776-8850, setofcs.org.

GetInvolved

Discover Goodwill seeks professionals to volunteer with its Possibilities program, and share their skills with those with developmental disabilities and learning challenges. 785-9229, dgardner@discovermygoodwill.org.

Eat Your Art Out, a fundraiser for Monument Academy featuring a silent auction, tastings from local restaurants and caterers, and performances by the MA jazz band, choir and drama students. Sat., April 13, 1-5 p.m. $10. Monument Academy, 1150 Village Ridge Pt., Monument, finearts@monumentacademy.net.

Koscove Metal, located at 431 W. Colorado Ave., seeks monetary and metal donations (to be recycled) to help rebuild the Waldo Canyon burn scar. April 16-22. 636-3559, koscovemetal.com.

Monthly Blood Drive, a chance to donate blood in partnership with Bonfils Blood Center and the Colorado Springs Fire Department. Drive is located at Fire Station 18, 6830 Hadler View. Sun., April 14, 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. donors.bonfils.org.

PICK **S-CAP Red Ribbon Ball,** the signature gala event of the Southern Colorado AIDS Project. RSVP by April 8. Sat., April 13, 6 p.m. $125. Antlers Hilton, 4 S. Cascade Ave., 578-9092, s-cap.org.

Water Stewardship Day, an all-ages cleaning day that will rid Fountain Creek of trash and weeds. Reservations required. Sat., April 13, 9 a.m. Fountain Creek Nature Center, 320 Peppergrass Lane, Fountain, 520-6745, elpasocountyparks.com.

Health&Healing

Goddess Workshop with Kamala Easton, Easton is the author of *Autobiography of a Yogini*. Thurs., April 11, 6-9 p.m. $45. Phoenix Yoga Lounge, 124 Ruxton Ave., Manitou Springs.

Manitou Yoga, Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays, 8 a.m. $5. Business of Art Center, 513 Manitou Ave., Manitou Springs, 685-1861, thebac.org.

PTSD Peer-Led Support Group, a support group for the spouses or significant others of a veteran or current military person suffering with PTSD. Tuesdays, 4:30 p.m. Veterans' Affairs Clinic, 25 N. Spruce St., #207, 685-1965.

PTSD Support Group, for soldiers experiencing nightmares, flashbacks, insomnia, irritability and/or hyper-vigilance. Meet with other soldiers who are experiencing the same symptoms. Facilitated by a licensed therapist. Confidential. Covered by Tricare. Tuesdays, Thursdays, 4-5:30 p.m. Soldier Life Center, 1767 S. Eighth St., #100, 471-0800, soldierlifecenter.com.

Self Help Group for Survivors of Sexual Assault, a safe place to express feelings and share paths to recovery. Sponsored by Finding Our Voices, an arts-based healing organization. Mondays, 7-8:30 p.m. Cheyenne Mountain Library, 1785 S. Eighth St., #100, 633-6278, findingourvoicescs.com.

Kids&Family

PICK **Lantern Parade,** a parade of middle and high school students organized by Concrete Couch. The parade starts at 8 p.m. at Soda Springs Park and ends at Mansions Park with refreshments. Fri., April 12. Soda Springs Park, 1016 Manitou Ave., Manitou Springs, concretecouch.org.

A Positive Note, an eight-week music-making experience for individuals with disabilities, ages 12 through young adult. Early registration recommended. Saturdays, 10 a.m. to noon; through May 26. Colorado Springs Conservatory, 415 S. Sahwatch St., 577-4556, csconservatory.org.

Lectures&Learning

"Craft a Succulent Wreath," a class on wreath creation using an assortment of succulents. Sat., April 13, 10 a.m. $35. Phelan Gardens, 4955 Austin Bluffs Pkwy., 574-8058, phelangardens.com.

"The Female Trickster: Sassy Skirts and Wily Women," a discourse on the archetype of the comic female trickster by Jungian analyst Kathleen Goldblatt. Fri., April 12, 7-9 p.m. $8-12. Unity Church in the Rockies, 1945 Mesa Road, 527-0622, csjung.org.

"Firewise Landscaping," a class from the Colorado State University Extension Office on fire mitigation measures you can take in your gardens to protect your home. Thurs., April 11, 6:30-8:30 p.m. El Paso County Citizen's Service Center, 1675 W. Garden of the Gods Road. $10. 520-7688, elpasoco.colostate.edu/hort/hort.shtml.

Great Outdoors Colorado: Celebrating 20 Years of Protecting Our Magnificent Natural Heritage, a presentation by renowned photographer John Fielder and Lise Aangeenbrug, executive director of Great Outdoors Colorado (GOCO). RSVP by April 8. Fri., April 12, 9:45 a.m. First United Methodist Church, 420 N. Nevada Ave., 473-3783, joansixty@msn.com, fumc-cs.org.

"History of the AdAmAn Club," a lecture from Don

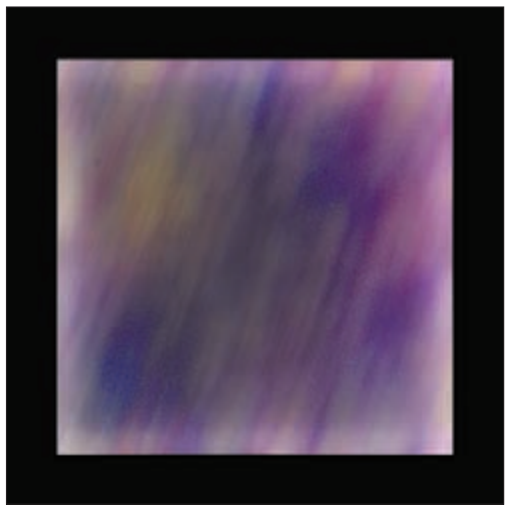
Sanborn. Sun., April 14, 3 p.m. Manitou Springs Heritage Center, 517 Manitou Ave., Manitou Springs, 685-1454, manitouspringsheritagecenter.org.

"How to Think Like a Neanderthal," a lecture from Dr. Thomas Wynn, professor of anthropology. Fri., April 12, 9:30 a.m. Free. UCCS' University Center, 1420 Austin Bluffs Pkwy., uccs.edu.

"New Domains in Color," an instructional lecture for professional and amateur photographers from Colorado photographer John Fielder. Fri., April 12, 2-4 p.m. $50. First United Methodist Church, 420 N. Nevada Ave., 473-3783, joansixty@msn.com, fumc-cs.org.

"The Research Factor in Historical Fiction," a chance to learn about the historical fiction writer's research process from award winning authors Bert Entwistle and John McKenna. Fri., April 12, 11 a.m. $5. Old Colorado City Historic Center, 1 S. 24th St., 636-1225, occhs.org.

"Space Wars & Counterspace," the latest in the Pikes Peak Regional History Lecture Series explores the role of satellites in America's defense system through the lens of Bill Scott and Mike Coumatos' tactical novels. RSVP requested. Sat., April 13, 2-3 p.m. $5. Colorado Springs Pioneers Museum, 215 S. Tejon St., 385-5990, cspm.org.



PICK **Downtown Studio Gallery at Pikes Peak Community College,** 100 W. Pikes Peak Ave., 502-4040, ppcc.edu/departments/art/pppcc-art-gallery. *AIR LIGHT BREATH,* an exhibit by Corey Drieth, Donny Dixon, DeLane Bredvik and Tanya Gelster concerning "physical manifestations of ethereal phenomena." Through April 12. Artist discussion, Fri., April 12, 4 p.m.

"Who Decides For You? A Community Discussion of End-of-Life Decisions," a panel discussion "from legal, medical ethics, faith and human service perspectives" on how to plan for end-of-life decisions. Co-sponsored by Gentiva (formerly Odyssey) Hospice. RSVP by April 12 for the April 16, 4 p.m. event. Free. Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center, 30 W. Dale St., 331-6496, csfineartscenter.org.

LiteraryEvents

PICK **City Slam Poetry Competition,** a competition among area high-schoolers. Fri., April 12, 6 p.m. $3. Colorado Springs City Auditorium, 221 E. Kiowa St., 385-5996, springsgov.com/cc.

Covered Treasures Bookstore Book Signing, an evening with political thriller author J.L. Austgen and Sharon Peters, author of the nonfiction account of a Holocaust survivor and his dog, *Trusting Calvin.* Thurs., April 11, 6:30-8 p.m. Covered Treasures Bookstore, 105 Second St., Monument, 481-2665.

J. Patrick Lewis, two programs from Lewis, the current U.S. Children's Poet Laureate and author of nearly 100 books. Lewis will attend a reception and book signing on April 10, and then give a children's poetry program on Thurs., April 11 at 1 p.m. Wed., April 10, 4:30 p.m. Free. Penrose Library, 20 N. Cascade Ave., 531-6333, ppld.org.

Mountain of Authors, a chance for literature lovers of all ages to meet and discuss their favorite titles with local authors. Keynote speaker is *New York Times* bestseller Stephen Coonts, author of *Flight of the Intruder.* Sat., April 13, 12:30-6 p.m. East Library, 5550 N. Union Blvd., ppld.org/MOA.

Pikes Peak Romance Writers Present: Barbara Samuel O'Neal, a meet and greet followed by a workshop from this award-winning author with more than 38 books to her name. Sun., April 14, 1 p.m. $5. Black Cat Books, 513 Manitou Ave., Manitou Springs, manitoubooks.com.

The Story Project, a mashup of storytellers with widely varied backgrounds, from yogis to comedians to hospice chaplains. Fri., April 12, 7-9 p.m. $5. Marmalade at Smokebrush, 219 W. Colorado Ave., #210, 444-1012, facebook.com/events/255536301250387.

Visions in Verse, an interactive event featuring poetry, art and music. Fri., April 12, 5 p.m. $2. Cottonwood Center for the Arts, 427 E. Colorado Ave., 520-1899, cottonwoodcenterforthearts.com.

Museums&Attractions

El Pueblo History Museum, 301 N. Union Ave., Pueblo, 719/583-0453, coloradohistory.org/hist_sites/pueblo/pueblo.htm. Fiber Arts Demonstration, a chance to learn how wool becomes yarn, how yarn is turned into weavings, and how quilts are made. Local Quilt Guild and Handweavers Guild members will demonstrate and offer guidance to beginners. Thurs., April 11, 5-8 p.m. Kids' Quilt Workshop, a fun and engaging afternoon of projects for kids ages 8-12 with the Pride City Quilt Guild. Pre-registration required. Fri., April 12, 2-4 p.m. $1. *Sisters of Loretto,* a traveling exhibit detailing the history of this religious order that operated schools in Kentucky, Missouri and then in the Southwest Territory and Colorado.. Through July 27.

Garden of the Gods Visitor & Nature Center, 1805 N. 30th St., 219-0108, gardenofgods.com. "Lunch and a Look at the Garden," a lecture series focusing on the life and times of the Garden, from history to nature to adventure tours, with an opportunity to continue the discussion over lunch at the café. Reservations recommended. Tuesdays, 11:30 a.m.; through May 28.

SpecialEvents

Colorado ManREACH Spring Fling, a communal event for gay, bisexual, queer and transgender men. Sun., April 14. Rock Ledge Ranch Historic Site, 3105 Gateway Road, 578-6777, manreach.org.

Immigration Reform Panel, a luncheon featuring Sarah Kendall Hughes, deputy chief of staff for Colorado Sen. Michael Bennet; Oscar A. Chacon, executive director of the National Alliance of Latin American and Caribbean Communities; and Tom Hurley, a Colorado Springs attorney specializing in immigration matters. Register by April 12 for the April 16, 11:30 a.m. lunch. $35. The Mining Exchange, A Wyndham Grand Hotel, 8 S. Nevada Ave., 389-6846, coloradocollege.edu/immigrationlunch.

Little London Open Air Market, monthly markets featuring antiques, jewelry, clothing, art, furniture and more, including music and snacks. Second Saturday of every month, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Little London Market, 109 S. Sierra Madre St., 632-5588, littlelondonmarket.com.

PICK **Peak FreQuency: Pioneers of Music Festival,** a multi-day event featuring Pauline Oliveros, guests artists from Holland and more. April 10-13. Free. UCCS' Centennial Hall, 1420 Austin Bluffs Pkwy., uccs.edu/~peakfreq.

SAAM5K Walk/Run, a benefit for Sexual Assault Awareness Month, with proceeds benefitting TESSA. Sat., April 13, 9 a.m. $25-$30. University Village Colorado, 5230 N. Nevada Ave., 232-7766, uvcshopping.com.

Spirituality

"Classes in Sacred Sciences," a miniseries "on the basic Universal Laws that govern the mind-body system." Saturdays; through May 11. $35-$55. Center for Spiritual Living, 3685 Jeannine Drive, 303/726-9344, creativetransformations.biz.

Mindfulness Meditation, weekly meditation sessions offered morning and evening. Visit website for times and more info. Mondays, Wednesdays, Sundays. Rocky Mountain Insight, 2525 W. Pikes Peak Ave., Suite A, 634-0566, rockymountaininsight.org.

Tibetan Yoga and Meditation, a session of Tsa Lung with Dr. Ian Wickramasekera, open to all spiritual backgrounds and physical skill levels. Comfortable clothing suggested. Fri., April 12, 6:30-8:30 p.m. Movement Arts Community Studio, 525 E. Fountain Blvd., #150, 963-1809, movementartscs.com.

Sports&Recreation

Cancer Survivor Fitness Program, a basic eight-week strength and conditioning course. Dates/times flexible; call for more information. Phenom

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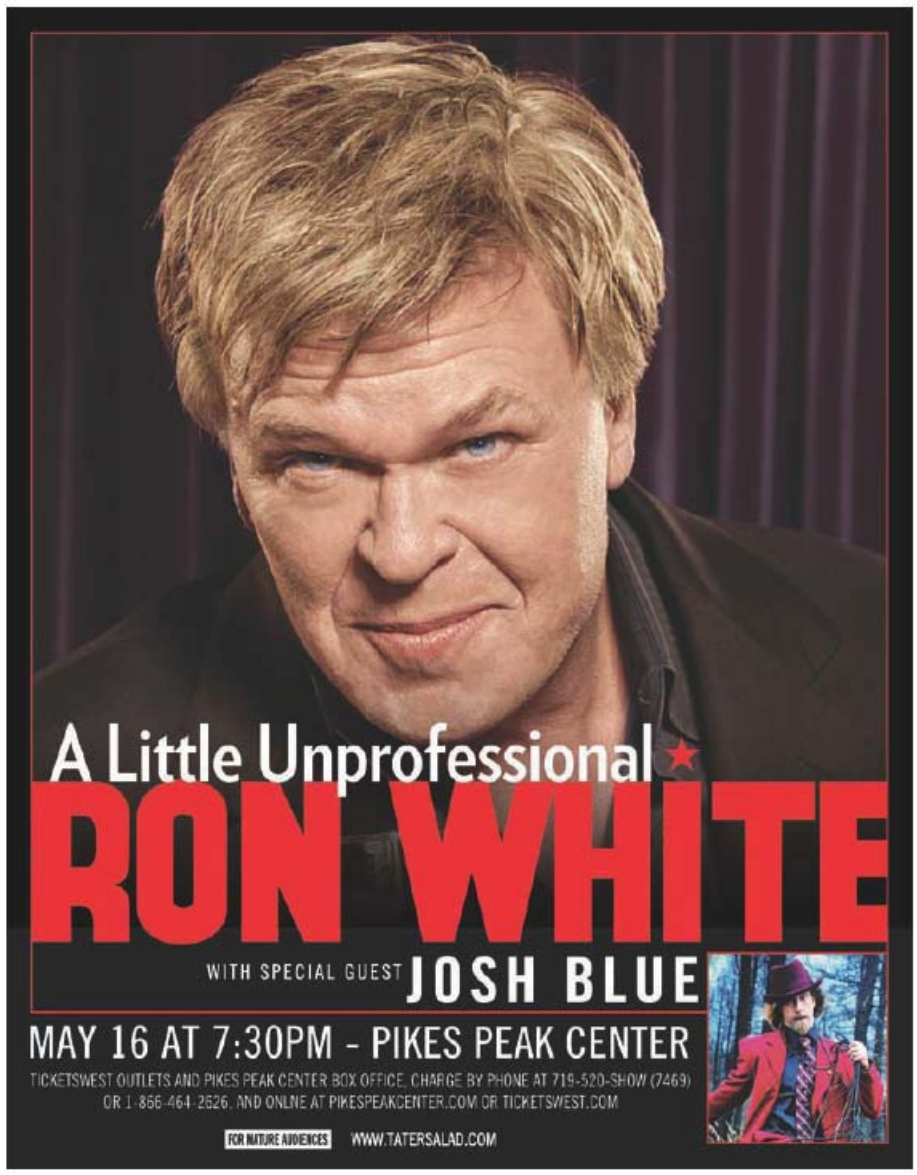
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1 Fitness, 1360 N. Academy Blvd., 330-4331, Lift4Life.org.

Dirty Girl Mud Run, a women-only obstacle course held at 12750 Hwy. 94. Cancer survivors run for free. Sat., April 13, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. $100. godirtygirl.com.

Yoga Teacher Open House, a chance to learn more about Cambio's teacher training program and leaders. $100 off tuition for attendees who reserve their space for this summer's training course at the open house. Fri., April 12, 7 p.m. cambio. Yoga, 3326 Austin Bluffs Pkwy., 321-8547, cambioyoga.com.

The Zombie Hero Workout, a new strength, agility and running fitness program designed to put you in top shape for evading zombies and make you look good while doing it. See website for details and class registration. Mondays, Wednesdays, 5-6:30 p.m. Palmer Park, 3650 Maizeland Road, 291-5924, helpzombies.com/zombie-hero-workout.html.

Stage

Blue Monday, a student opera, set during the Harlem Renaissance and adapted from Gershwin's work. April 12-13, 7:30 p.m. Free. CC's Packard Hall, 5 W. Cache la Poudre St., 389-6607, coloradocollege.edu.

Fiddler on the Roof, a performance of the Tony Award-winning musical from the Forestgate Community Theatre. April 11-27. $6-$10. Forestgate Presbyterian Church, 970 N. Gate Blvd., 495-5672, forestgate.org.

In the Heights, an all-student production of Lin-Manuel Miranda's 2008 Tony-award winning musical about a vibrant community in New York's Washington Heights neighborhood. Fridays, Saturdays, 7 p.m.; through April 20. $6-9. Rampart High School, 8250 Lexington Drive, 234-2086, showtix4u.com.

Man of La Mancha, a school production of the Tony Award-winning play within a play about he who tilts at windmills. April 11-13. $5-$8. Palmer High School, 301 N. Nevada Ave., 328-5000, d11.org/palmer.

The Pilgrim's Progress, a marionette version of John Bunyan's classic allegory. Through June 2. Simpich Showcase, 2413 W. Colorado Ave., 465-2492, simpich.com.

Six Women Playwriting Festival, an annual festival of 10-minute plays by female authors in its seventh year. This year's theme is "Planes, Trains & Automobiles: The Comings and Goings of Life." Thursdays-Sundays; through April 28. $15-20. Millibo Art Theatre, 1367 Pecan St., 465-6321, sixwomenplayfestival.com.

VolunteerOpportunities

Colorado Springs Police Department seeks volunteers to join its June "ambassador" program, where teams of two assist downtown and Old Colorado City guests. 444-7735, springscaps.org.

Evercare Hospice and Palliative Care needs volunteers to assist patients and families as companion volunteers. Training provided; the next session will be held April 27. Call 265-1109 to sign up.

Rocky Mountain Field Institute seeks volunteers age 16-plus for several trail restoration projects around the Pikes Peak Region, including Waldo Canyon workdays and more. 471-7736, rmfi.org.

Safe Place for Pets seeks foster homes for dogs given away after their owners contracted terminal illnesses. These pets are in need of a safe home until they can be adopted permanently. Safe Place tries to tailor foster homes to the needs of each pet and volunteer. 359-0201, info@safeplacepets.org.

Venetucci Farm seeks volunteers to lend a hand with farm duties throughout the season, from weeding to planting and transplanting. Go online for a schedule and to sign up. Sat., April 13. Venetucci Farm, 5210 S. U.S. Hwy. 85, 391-8102,ppcf.org/impact/venetucci-farm/volunteer.

PICK **Second Thursday Art Crawl,** an evening of special art openings, live music, street performances and food to honor the Pueblo Creative Corridor — winner of the 2013 Governor's Art Award — and coinciding with the Creative Industries Summit. Thurs., April 11, 5-8 p.m. Free. Downtown Pueblo, 719/242-6652, pueblopag.org.

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StrangerThanFiction

Curses, foiled again

When police questioned the apparently drunk driver of a vehicle that crashed into some trees in Iowa City, Iowa, she identified herself as Tameka Johnson and gave her age as 34. When they told her they were transporting her to the University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics for treatment, she confessed that her real name was Decontee J. Fletcher, 30. Fletcher works at the facility as an assistant professor in the neurology clinic. (*Iowa City Press-Citizen*)

Tree thuggers

Concert promoter Charles Attal claimed he's the victim of a "witch hunt" after he cut down several dozen juniper trees on his property in West Lake Hills, Texas. City officials said he broke the law, which forbids removing any tree in the city limits, dead or alive, without a permit. Attal explained he cut down the trees, which he insists were dead, because he feared stray sparks or a discarded cigarette could ignite a wildfire. The city wants him to plant junipers whose diameters total 338 inches, which the city arborist said is the combined diameter of the cut trees; otherwise, it is threatening a lawsuit and fines of up to $2,000 per tree. Attal is holding out to replace only 200 diameter inches. (*Austin American-Statesman*)

When retired big-league ballplayer John Olerud moved into his new 12-room, 6,680-square-foot hillside house in Clyde Hill, Wash., he asked the city Board of Adjustment to order his neighbor to cut down two mature, 50-foot trees that partially block Olerud's view of Lake Washington, the Seattle skyline and the Olympic Mountains, and lower the home's appraised value by $255,000. Even though the trees were there when Olerud built the home, the board backed Olerud's request and ordered neighbor Bruce Baker to remove the trees. At the first of two city hearings, Olerud declared that Baker, a Presbyterian minister, should let Olerud have the same commanding view that Baker enjoys because of Jesus' admonition to love your neighbor. (*Seattle Times*)

Victory of sorts

Saudi Arabia announced it might abolish beheading because of a shortage of swordsmen to carry out executions. If so, it will switch to firing squads. (Ahram Online)

Privacy follies

The New York Police Department began testing a high-tech scanner capable of detecting concealed weapons by reading terahertz, the natural energy emitted by people and inanimate objects. "If something is obstructing the flow of that radiation, for example a weapon, the device will highlight that object," Police Commissioner Raymond Kelly said, adding the device is portable and small enough to be placed in a police vehicle or on a street corner where gunplay has occurred. The New York Civil Liberties Union raised concerns about "virtual pat-downs," and some security experts warned that false readings could lead to unjustified stops. (New York's *Daily News*)

When Virginia resident Aaron Tobey declined screening by advanced imaging technology X-ray machines — so-called nude body scanners — at the Richmond International Airport, opting for a pat-down instead, he stripped to his shorts to display a protest of airport security measures written in marker on his chest: "Amendment 4: The right of the people to be secure against unreasonable searches and seizures shall not be violated." Claiming the Transportation Security Administration then illegally handcuffed and interrogated him for 90 minutes before he was charged with disorderly conduct, Tobey sued the TSA in federal court. He lost, but the 4th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals reversed the decision. (*Wired*)

Tomorrow lands

The re-election of Barack Obama has prompted many right-wing Americans to plan a retreat from the world in proposed liberal-free enclaves:

New-media entrepreneur Glenn Beck announced plans to build Independence USA, a $2 billion, self-sufficient, libertarian city-cum-theme park that would celebrate "the rebirth of our nation through its own principles." Beck said he was inspired by Walt Disney's original plans for a 20,000-resident Epcot Center.

PayPal co-founder Peter Thiel pledged $1.25 million to the Seasteading Institute, which plans to establish self-governing, libertarian-minded nations on giant mobile platforms floating in international waters. Each 12,000-ton platform would house 300 residents.

"Marxists, Socialists, Liberals and Establishment Republicans will likely find that life in our community is incompatible with their existing ideology and preferred lifestyles," proclaims the website of The Citadel, a walled community of up to 7,000 residents centered on a firearms factory being proposed for northern Idaho. Its website boasts the fortress-like city will feature "no recycling police" and require all residents to "maintain one AR15 variant in 5.56mm NATO, at least 5 magazines and 1,000 rounds of ammunition." Prospective residents must also pledge to "carry a loaded sidearm whenever visiting the Citadel Town Center."

Organizers said Independence and the Citadel will welcome visitors "like Colonial Williamsburg," according to Larry Rosenthal, executive director of the Center for Right-Wing Studies at the University of California at Berkeley. "These communities seem like a cross between the Henry Ford Museum village and the Creation Museum in Kentucky." (*The Washington Times*)

Compiled by Roland Sweet. Send clippings, citing source and date, to P.O. Box 8130, Alexandria, VA 22306.

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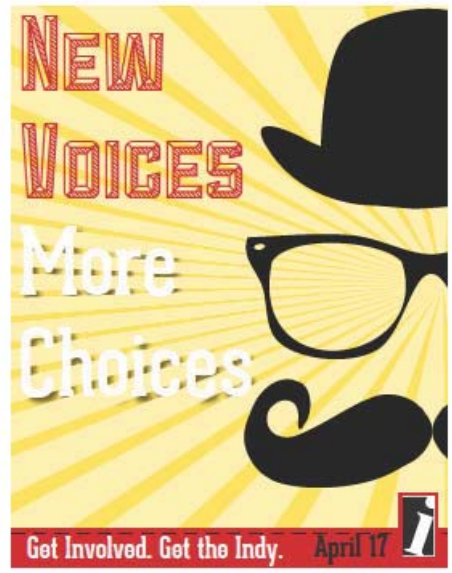

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CannaBiz

Medical marijuana news of the week

King of the jungle

Either pot brings the "social" out in people, or entrepreneurs just really appreciate the low overhead and consistent membership fees that cannabis social clubs seem to offer. Either way, there's been a glut lately, and we've found our fourth: **The Lazy Lion** (2502 E. Bijou St., 634-8337), a members-only outfit, with a stoned lion — wearing a crown and rocking a Rastafarian-Colorado flag — as its logo.

We tried to reach owner Andrew Poarch, as well as club employees, for more details, but failed to hear back by deadline. However, Denise Gibe, a spokeswoman for the club, sent us an e-mail with some information.

"There is a Social Lounge, private VIP Rooms, Arcade area, [and a] Movie Theater," she writes. "And there is an upcoming events calendar that will feature special food nights, ladies nights, music events and more. Rooms can be rented for private events as well."

As at the others, this is a bring-your-own-weed deal. Gibe says $30 is the monthly membership fee, with $10 required for daily entry — it's not clear whether that's on top of the monthly cost or not — and the club's open every day from 1 p.m. to 1 a.m.

"It is the Premier Membership Only Cannibis [sic] Club in Colorado," she writes, "a 'destination' social club offering a safe and relaxed environment."

Roll tide

A poll released last week by the **Pew Research Center** (people-press.org) found that "for the first time in more than four decades of polling on the issue, a majority of Americans favor legalizing the use of marijuana." Fifty-two percent of those polled supported the outright legalization of weed, while 72 percent think "government efforts to enforce marijuana laws cost more than they are worth."

Branding matters

The **Cannabis Energy Drink** (cannabisenergydrink.com) is coming to a store near you — and not a dispensary, either. This is a THC-free liquid, and is instead laced with hemp-seed oil. Area sales manager Jack Bruso says it tastes like Red Bull with a nutty kick.

So, what's the big deal? Well, just check the press release: "What CED has going for it, is a bold green can with the words 'Cannabis Energy Drink,' and its sweet taste." And there you go.

Tax weed-fall

Last week, the *Pueblo Chieftain* reported that Pueblo County brought in $58,600 in sales-tax revenue from its medical-marijuana businesses between October 2010 and January 2013. In a related story, the *Denver Post* wrote Monday that the city of Aurora could see as much as $2.7 million annually from marijuana sales tax and licensing fees.

— Bryce Crawford

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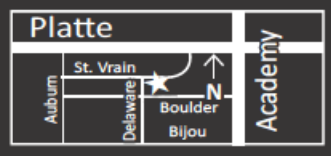

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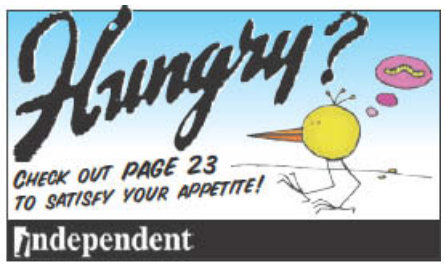

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By Rob Brezsny

ARIES (March 21-April 19): German theologian Martin Luther (1483-1546) was a central figure in the rebellion against the Catholic Church that led to the Protestant Reformation. You'll never guess where he was when he was struck by the epiphany that became the core axiom of his new religion. I'll tell you: He was sitting on the toilet in the Wittenberg Monastery. The Holy Spirit gave him the crucial knowledge then and there, or so he testified. In this spirit, Aries, keep a very open mind about where you will be and what you will be doing when your illuminations arrive this week.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Your task is to uncover the semi-happy ending that was hidden back in the story's beginning. Once you do that, you may be able to create a graceful and honorable climax. In fact, I don't think you will be able to bring about the semi-happy ending any other way. It's crucial that you return to the original flash of inspiration — the time when all the plot lines that eventually developed were first germinating. You need to remember fate's primal promise. You've got to read the signs you missed in the early going.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): If you play poker, the odds are one in 649,740 that you will get a royal flush. That's an ace, king, queen, jack and 10 of one suit. As for drawing a straight flush — any five consecutive cards of one suit — the odds are one in 72,192. Judging from the current astrological omens, Gemini, I'd say your chance of getting one of those hands is far better than usual — maybe one in 88,000 for the royal flush and one in 8,888 for the straight flush. But those still aren't great odds. On the other hand, getting a flush — all five cards of the same suit — is normally one in 509, but these days it's pretty likely for you. The moral of the story, not just for when you're playing cards, but in whatever you do: Expect really good luck, but not miraculous, out-of-this-world luck.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): "Wherever you stand, be the soul of that place," wrote the poet Rumi. This is excellent advice for you right now, Cancerian. You are nearing the peak of your power to express yourself with beautiful accuracy. You have more skill than usual at understanding and conveying the interesting truth. As a result, you're in a position to wield extra influence. People are receptive to being moved by your heart-felt intelligence. So please do more than simply push for greater efficiency, order and discipline. Those things are good, but I hope you will also be a radiant role model who exemplifies what it means to be soulful.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Golden Rock is a Buddhist holy site in Burma. It's a small pagoda built on top of a giant boulder that in turn seems to be precariously balanced at the edge of a down-sloping bed of rock. How does the boulder remain stationary? Why doesn't it roll off the edge? It appears to defy gravity. Legend says that it's held in place by a single strand of hair from the Buddha's head. I suspect that many of you Leos will soon have access to a tricky asset with resemblances to that magic strand. True, it might be merely metaphorical. But if used correctly, it could become a key element in a future foundation.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): It's Soul-Searching Season: a good time to go in search of your soul. To aid your quest, I'll offer a few lines from "A Few Words on the Soul," a poem by Polish poet Wislawa Szymborska. "We have a soul at times," she says. "No one's got it non-stop, for keeps. Day after day, year after year may pass without it. For every thousand conversations, it participates in one, if even that, since it prefers silence. It's picky: our hustling for a dubious advantage and creaky machinations make it sick. Joy and sorrow aren't two different feelings for it. It attends us only when the two are joined. We can count on it when we're sure of nothing and curious about everything. It won't say where it comes from or when it's taking off again, though it's clearly expecting such questions. We need it but apparently it needs us for some reason too." (Translation by Stanislaw Baranczak and Clare Cavanagh. Read the whole poem here: tinyurl.com/SearchSoul.)

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): "I do not believe in God," said Mexican painter Diego Rivera, "but I believe in Picasso." My poet-musician friend Tanya has a similar philosophy. "I don't believe in God, or even Goddess, for that matter," she says. "But I do believe in Patti Smith." Do you have a God-substitute, Libra? Or, if you do have faith in a Cosmic Wow, is there also a more approachable, second-tier source of divinity you love? According to my reading of the astrological omens, you would really benefit from feeling an intimate kind of reverence right now — a tender devotion for something higher and brighter that awakens the sleeping part of your lust for life.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): This would be an excellent time to stage staring contests with yourself in the mirror. There's a high likelihood that you will win every time. I think you'll also have great success whenever you try to read your own mind. According to my analysis of the astrological omens, you've got an uncanny knack for plucking buried secrets and self-deceptions out of their hiding places. One more thing, Scorpio: Have you ever considered how fun it might be to wash your own brain and kick your own butt? Now would be an excellent time to experiment with those radical acts of healing.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): "It's so hard to forget pain, but it's even harder to remember sweetness," writes novelist Chuck Palahniuk. "We have no scar to show for happiness. We learn so little from peace." Your assignment in the coming days, Sagittarius, is to prove Palahniuk wrong. As the surges of sweetness flow through you, as your secret joy ripens into bright blooming bliss, imprint the sensations on your memory. Vow to remember them for the rest of your life. Make these breakthrough moments into talismans that will serve as magical spells whenever you need rejuvenation in the future.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Philosopher Ludwig Wittgenstein had his priorities straight. This is what he said about his profession: "In philosophy the race is won by the one who can run slowest — the one who crosses the finish line last." It's my belief, Capricorn, that a similar rule should apply to you in the coming days — no matter what project you're working on or goal you're trying to accomplish. Proceed slowly enough to be absolutely thorough, meticulous and conscientious. As you make your way to the finish line, be as deep as you dare.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): In Samuel Beckett's novel *Molloy*, the main character talks about a long overland journey he took on foot and by bicycle. Before the trip, he had read somewhere that when people are lost in a forest, they often imagine they're moving in a straight line when in fact they're going in a circle. That's why, during his own travels, he intentionally walked in a circle, hoping thereby to go straight. Although this might sound like a loopy strategy, Aquarius, I think it will make sense for you to adopt in the coming week. Your apparent path may be very different, maybe even opposite, to your actual path.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Are you in competition with someone who is doing mediocre work? Do you find it incomprehensible that anyone would pay attention to that weak expression instead of flocking to your beautiful vibe? If so, here's my advice. Withdraw your attention from your inferior opponent. Don't waste a minute feeling jealous or resentful or incredulous. Instead, concentrate your energy on making your production so strong and smart and irresistible that you simply overshadow and overwhelm your rival's.

Homework: I'm guessing that many of you will soon be discovering secrets about where you came from. Report results to freewillastrology.com.

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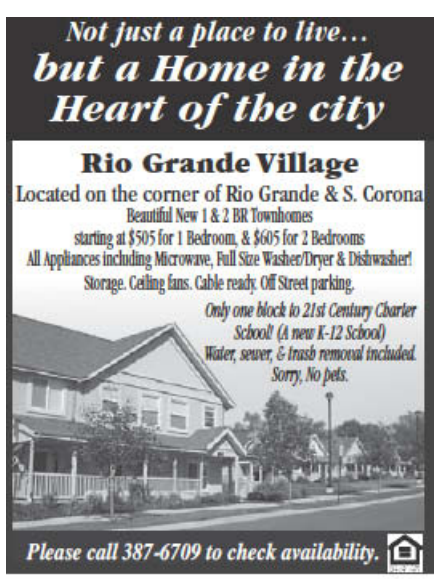
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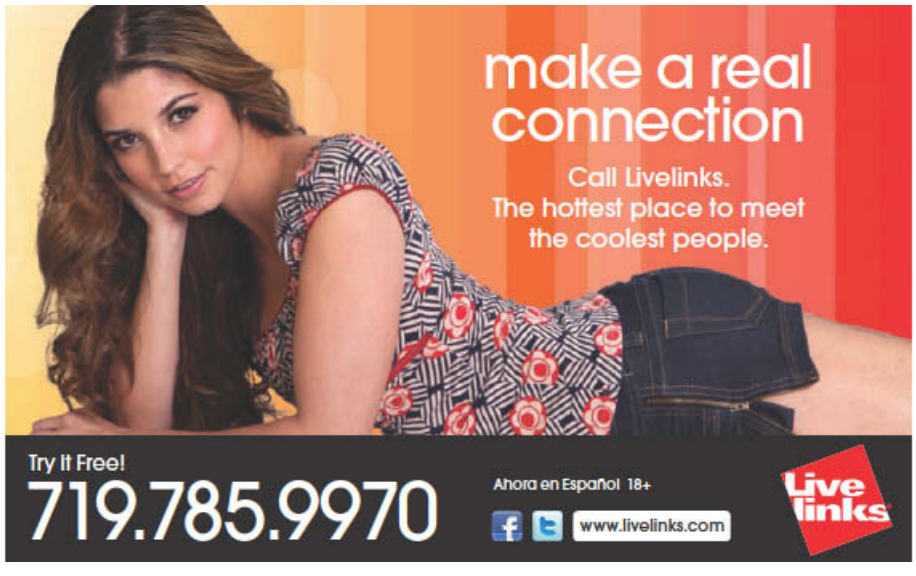

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EndZone

By Ralph Routon

Sky Sox might be memorable

Whenever the subject is minor-league baseball, especially at the Triple-A level, any intelligent conversation has to begin with a disclaimer.

No matter what the parent major-league organization might say, the farm system's wins and losses are not vital. Certainly the record and standings matter to the Colorado Rockies, but in the minors, winning games isn't the top priority.

It's all about developing and preparing players for the majors. It's about rectifying whatever problems have kept each individual from making it to — or staying at — the top. This philosophy, of course, wasn't born in just the past few years. I first saw it as a kid in 1964.

That year, the Arkansas Travelers (in Little Rock) were playing in the Pacific Coast League as the top minor-league affiliate of the Philadelphia Phillies. That Arkansas team had a handful of prospects, led by pitcher **Ferguson Jenkins**, outfielders **Alex Johnson** and **Adolfo Phillips**, shortstop **Lee Elia**, first baseman **Costen Shockley** and catcher **Pat Corrales**.

Arkansas went 95-61 that season and was headed for the PCL title. Then, in the playoffs, the team had the "misfortune" of running into the Phillies in an airport. That Philadelphia team was in the middle of a history-making collapse. With a 6½-game lead over the National League (before divisions) and 12 games to play, the Phils lost 10 straight games and blew the pennant to St. Louis.

In that West Coast airport during the Phillies' losing streak, their management grabbed a handful of Arkansas players and promoted them to the big-league roster. Arkansas wound up losing the PCL title series to San Diego, and the Phillies didn't make the World Series.

But that was how baseball worked, then as it does now.

So the Colorado Springs Sky Sox, in the same PCL today, find themselves with a roster that reminds me of the group that spent the summer of 1964 in Little Rock. Because the Colorado Rockies are in a rebuilding mode, following turnover in the front office and a new manager in **Walt Weiss**, they had serious competition for almost every roster spot during spring training.

Thanks to all that uncertainty last month in Arizona, the Sky Sox have inherited a roster that could be as exciting — and successful — as the Springs has seen in a while.

The group here includes several prospects who didn't make it to the Rockies: third baseman **Nolan Arenado**, middle fielder **DJ LeMahieu**, outfielder **Charlie Blackmon** and utility player **Matt McBride**. Then the Sky Sox have a cluster who already have tasted the majors but faltered in the spring: outfielder **Tyler Colvin**, starting pitchers **Drew Pomeranz**, **Christian Friedrich** and **Tyler Chatwood,** and reliever **Josh Outman**.

On top of all that, Colorado Springs begins 2013 with two players familiar to Rockies fans from previous years, starting pitcher **Aaron Cook** and reliever **Manny Corpas**, plus new manager **Glenallen Hill**.

Put it all together, along with a few others from the Colorado farm system — outfielders **Corey Dickerson** and **Tim Wheeler**, infielders **Charlie Culberson** and **Tommy Manzella**, first baseman **Ben Paulsen** and catcher **Lars Davis**, among others — and you have the makings of a winning team in Colorado Springs.

Can they be as good as the best Sky Sox teams of the past 25 years? Nobody knew the 1992 team would win the PCL, just as nobody knew first baseman **Jim Thome** would go on to a possible Hall of Fame career and manager **Charlie Manuel** would lead Philadelphia to a World Series title.

And nobody expected Colorado Springs to take another PCL title in 1995, guided by **Brad Mills**, who has two World Series rings from being bench coach for the Boston Red Sox before he managed the Houston Astros in recent seasons. Mills did a superb job with that 1995 team, which included outfielders **Trent Hubbard** and **Quinton McCracken**, shortstop **Craig Counsell** and pitchers **Ryan Hawblitzel**, **A.J. Sager** and **John Burke**, among others.

This year's Sky Sox have a chance to create their own place in history, just like 1992 and 1995. But no matter how good they might be, it still comes down to what the Rockies need, and when they need it.

Such is life in baseball, just as it's always been.

— routon@csindy.com

SPORTS SHOT

Rockies' secret One reason they're off to a decent start is because their starting pitchers had to earn their jobs in spring training, so they're further along.

Still a shock Nobody yet has given a good reason why the University of Denver fired hockey coach George Gwozdecky, but rest assured he'll resurface somewhere.

Season spoiled It really looked like the Denver Nuggets had an outside shot at the NBA title until star forward Danilo Gallinari's season-ending knee injury, on top of guard Ty Lawson's foot troubles.

Just a guess Because the Denver Broncos haven't helped themselves at running back via free agency, they'll probably try to grab a good one early in the draft.

RangerRich

By Rich Tosches

Movoto's ugly truth

As you might have heard, our village recently grabbed the No. 2 slot on a list of America's worst-dressed big cities. I was so outraged I could barely tuck my *Paddle Faster I Can Hear Banjo Music* T-shirt under my camo-pattern suspenders holding up my velour track suit pants so they didn't drag under my unlaced high-top sneakers — which almost made me late for my daughter's wedding.

And popular village mayor **Steve Bach** also reacted angrily to the list, getting his Fruit of the Loom old-man tighty-whitey undershorts in such a knot that he could hardly swing his leg to kick a volunteer in the ass.

The fashion list placed us behind only the nice folks in Wichita, Kan., and I think I speak for many here in our village when I ask, "Good Lord, what the heck do *those* people wear?" The answer, of course, is "home-made dresses from burlap seed sacks."

Also on the list, following Wichita and Colorado Springs, are:

• El Paso, Texas. (Fashion sense here calls for no-iron fabrics so your clothes don't get all wrinkled when you crawl back and forth under the fence.)

'He's the dodge ball champion of Royal Caribbean.'

• Louisville, Ky. (As with all Kentucky towns, running shoes are popular so folks can sprint behind the mobile home when the copper 'tater mash still is about to blow up.)

• Tulsa, Okla. (My wife is from Tulsa and foolishly told me that in high school she made her own clothes. You'll never know about that, however, because she made me promise never to tell anyone.)

• Albuquerque. (Unlike their neighbors up the road in Santa Fe, Albuquerquians aren't bothered with superficial things like fashion — or art, culture, good restaurants and tourists.)

• Milwaukee, Wis. (People here favor something warm enough for the winter, such as an entire polar-bear pelt, and with enough room around the midsection for that 24th can of Pabst Blue Ribbon.)

So just who, you're wondering, compiled this worst-dressed list? Well, it was created by the blogging team at Movoto, a bunch of 20ish men and women whose greatest accomplishment seems to be getting called "prolific Novelty Real Estate bloggers" once. Last summer. By another blog.

From the worst-dressed blog's "About the Author" section: "**Randy** spent the last dozen or so years writing about video games for publications like ... *Nintendo Power*, but now he's decided to get 'serious.' That's why he's helping create a blog that wraps houses in bacon and explores the history of toilets."

Helping create a blog that wraps houses in bacon? I'm just wondering, when he says "bacon" does Randy mean, perhaps, "pot"?

Here are some of the other Movoto "real estate" blogger-people who helped produce and circulate the bloggy thing that says we dress poorly — direct from their site:

• "**David Cross**. Chief Writer and Content Producer of Much Awesome. A former journalist ... now enjoys writing about Batman, Market Trends and board games."

(Bet he spends a lot of much awesome time alone in the Bat Cave ... also known as his parents' basement.)

• "**Nick Johnson**. Public Relations Director ... he's also the dodge ball champion of Royal Caribbean Cruise Lines."

I only have his appearance in Movoto website photos to judge — we are judging people by their appearance, after all — and so I would imagine that other things Nick is really good at dodging are a good barber and dates.

• "**Sally Olsson**. Public Relations Associate. When she has a break she dreams about miniature pigs and eating ice cream."

Sally's colleague, Randy, said it takes the bacon from three miniature pigs to wrap a small house. Then he took another hit from the bong and fell face-first into the bowl of Cheetos.

Which caused chief writer David to skid down the street in his Batmobile (a bike) while Nick avoided another dodgeball and also avoided direct eye contact with his disappointed parents.

And we sure don't want respected professionals like that to think we dress funny.

***Rich Tosches (rangerrich@csindy.com) also writes a Sunday column in the* Denver Post.**

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